

Archæologia Cambrensis.

THIRD SERIES, No. LVIII.—APRIL, 1869.

SHERIFFS OF DENBIGHSHIRE.—No. II.

(Continued from p. 29.)

REIGN OF JAMES I.¹

1603.—*Edward Eyton, of Watstay in the parish of Rhiwabon, Esq.* For the second time.

1604.—*John Lloyd of Vaenol, Esq.*

1605.—*Cadwaladr Wynn of Voelas, Esq.* This gentleman was the eldest son and heir of Robert Wynn ab Cadwaladr of Voelas, Esq., high sheriff in the years 1549 and 1574 (*ante*, p. 8). He was twice married: first to Winifred, daughter of Knelim Throgmorton, Esq.; secondly to Ann, daughter of Owen Holland of Tir Mon, Esq. His *inq. post mort.* bears the date of 1612.² By his first wife he left issue:

- i. *Thomasine*, married to Robert Wynn of Hafod-y-Maidd, Esq.
 - ii. *Grace*, the wife of William Anwyl ab Thomas Anwyl.
 - iii. *Winifred*, married to Richard Wynn of Trofarth.
 - iv. *Elizabeth*, married (1) to Richard Heaton of the Green, Llyweni; (2), Hugh ab Thomas Peake.
 - v. *Mary*, the wife of Meredydd ab William of Trebedd.
- By his second wife had issue, an heir, *Robert* (who was sheriff in 1631 and 1664), and five daughters, viz.:

¹ James I began to reign March 24th, 1602-1603.

² *Arch. Camb.*, 1860, p. 112. (Pedigree.)

- i. *Jane*, the wife of William Holland of Pennant.
- ii. *Gaenor*, the wife of William Bulkeley of Coedana.
- iii. *Catherine*, the wife of David Ffoulkes.
- iv. *Margaret*, the wife of Humphrey Ffoulkes of Eglwys Fach.

v. *Magdalene*, the wife of Arthur Vaughan of Pantglas.

1606.—*Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, Knt.*, was the eldest son of Maurice Wynn of Gwydir (or Gwaedir), Esq., a descendant of Owen Gwynedd by his first wife, Jane, daughter of Sir Richard Bulkeley, Knt. He was born in 1553, and in 1574 was sent to London to study law. On the death of his father, in 1580, he succeeded to the family estates. He received the honour of knighthood, and represented the county of Carnarvon in the Parliament of 1596; was high sheriff for the same county in 1588 and 1603, and for Merionethshire in 1589 and 1601. In 1611 he was created a baron^{et}, and on the 12th of Dec. in the following year was chosen to bear the great standard at the funeral of Henry Prince of Wales. He was one of the council of the Welsh Marches, but was for a short time suspended from his office in the year 1615. During the latter part of his life he entertained the design of reclaiming Traeth Mawr and Traeth Bach. His letter asking the assistance of his "good cousin," Sir Hugh Myddelton, in this project, bears the date of Sept. 1st, 1625. He died on March 1st the following year. He left, in manuscript, his celebrated *History of the Gwydir Family*, which was first printed in 1770 by the Hon. Daines Barrington. The same gentleman also edited a second edition in 1781; and a third was edited by the late Miss Angharad Llwyd in 1827, which contained additional matter by Sir John Wynn, being sketches of distinguished contemporaries. He also wrote an extent of North Wales.¹ Sir John married Sydney, daughter of Sir William Gerard, Chancellor of Ireland, by whom he had issue, eleven sons and two daughters, and was succeeded by his second son,

¹ For further particulars relating to Sir John Wynn, consult the various editions of the *History of the Gwydir Family*, Pennant's *Tours*, *Royal Tribes*, Smiles' *Engineers*, i, 147, and *Enwogion Cymru*.

Sir Richard Wynn of Gwydir, Bart., one of the grooms of the bedchamber to Charles I when Prince of Wales, and afterwards treasurer to Queen Henrietta Maria. Sir Richard accompanied the Prince to Spain in 1623, and wrote a highly interesting narrative of the journey, which was printed among Thomas Hearne's tracts. He married Anne, daughter and coheir of Sir Francis Darcy of Isleworth, county of Middlesex, Knt.; but dying without issue, in 1649, at the age of sixty-one, he was succeeded by his brother, Sir Owen Wynn, high sheriff in 1656. (See that date.)

1607.—*Evan Meredith of Glan-Tanat in Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, Esq.*, was the son of Meredydd of the same place; a descendant, through Madog Kyffin, of Einion Efell. He married Margaret, daughter of Elis ab Richard ab Howel of Alrhey, Esq., and had issue, a son,

Andrew Meredydd of Glan-Tanat, Esq., who married Dorothy, daughter of John Owen Vaughan of Llwydiarth in Montgomeryshire, and was the father of *Margaret*, the wife of Edward Thelwall, the sheriff in 1670.¹

1608.—*Morgan Broughton of Murchwiall, Esq.* This sheriff was the eldest son of Edward Broughton by Elen, daughter of Humphrey Dymoke, Esq. He married Margaret, daughter and coheir of Harri ab Harri of Maesglas, Esq. (who was high sheriff in 1585), by whom he had issue, a son, *Edward*, who was created a baronet.

This family descended through Ednyfed, second son of Cynwrig ab Rhiwallon, from Tudor Trevor, and was a younger branch of the Broughtons of Broughton.

Arms.—*Ermine*, a lion statant, guardant, for Ednyfed ab Cynwrig ab Rhiwallon.

1609.—*Hugh Wynn Gruffydd of Berthddu, Esq.*, was the eldest son of Gruffydd Wynn of Berthddu, Esq. (ab John Wynn ab Meredydd of Gwydir), high sheriff of Merionethshire in 1592, by his wife Gwen, daughter and heiress of Robert Salusbury of Berthddu, Esq. Hugh Wynn married Margaret, daughter and heiress of

¹ Harl. MS. 2299. *Royal Tribes*, 117.

Richard Mostyn of Bodysgallen, Esq., and had a son and heir, *Robert*, who was high sheriff in 1618.¹

1610.—*Sir Richard Trefor of Trefalyn, Knt.*, was the eldest son of John Trefor of Trefalyn, or Allington, Esq., by Mary, daughter of Sir George Bruges of London, Knt. In the year 1638 Sir Richard erected his own monument in Gresford Church,² “in the eightieth year of his age, representing himself in armour, kneeling; and his wife, Catherine, daughter of Robert Puleston, Esq., of Emral, by him. The inscription informs us that it was chiefly in memory of his lady that he caused this memorial to be erected. He served many years in the Irish wars; was governor of Newry and the counties of Down and Armagh; council of the Marches, and vice-admiral of North Wales; and lived, as he tells us, to see his children’s children’s children. There is another monument to his lady, who is placed kneeling, with her five daughters.” “At Trefalyn is a singular portrait of Sir Richard dressed in black. Above hang his arms with the words ‘*So then*’; beneath are some medicines, and ‘*Now thus*’; allusive to his former and present state.”³ Sir Richard left four daughters, co-heirs:

- i. *Magdalen*, who married, first, Arthur Bagnall, Esq., of Staffordshire; secondly, — Tyingham of Tyingham in the county of Bucks.
- ii. *Mary*, the wife of Evan Lloyd of Bodidris in Yale, son of Sir John Lloyd, knight-banneret (see 1551), was the mother, with other issue, of (1), *John* of Bodidris, father of Sir Evan Lloyd, sheriff in 1644; (2), *Trevor*, ancestor of the Lloyds of Gloucester.⁴
- iii. *Dorothy*, married to Sir John Hanmer of Hanmer, Knt.; created a baronet 8 July, 1620.
- iv. *Margaret*, the wife of John Gruffydd of Lleyllyn in the county of Carnarvon.

¹ *Hist. of Gwydir Family*, ed. 1781, 392 and 432; *Y Brython*, v, 383.

² Sir Richard also erected at Gresford a monument in memory of his father. The inscription is in Welsh, and is given in the *Records of Denbigh*, p. 96.

³ Pennant’s *Tours in Wales*, ed. 1810, vol. i, pp. 410-11.

⁴ Burke’s *Landed Gentry*, art. “Lloyd of Gloucester.”

The Trefors or Trevors of Trefalyn were a branch of the Trefors of Bryncynallt, and were descended from Tudor Trefor.¹

Arms.—Party per bend sinister, *erm.* and *ermine*s, a lion rampant *or.*

1611.—*Robert Sontley of Sontley, Esq.* (See under 1598.)

1612.—*Simon Thelwall of Plas y-Ward, Esq.* This gentleman was the eldest son of Edward Thelwall, Esq., high sheriff in 1590, by Dorothy, his first wife. He was twice married. By his first wife, Jane, daughter of Maurice Wynn of Gwydir, he had issue:

- i. *Edward*, who succeeded his father, high sheriff in 1670.
- ii. *Maurice*, who was a captain at the siege of Chester. He married Anne, daughter of Hugh Williams, and had issue: (1), *Stephen*; (2), *Robert*; (3), *Thomas*.
- iii. *Simon*, who became vicar of Trawsfynydd. He married Gaenor, daughter of William Vaughan. He married, secondly, Dorothy, daughter of John Vaughan, of Llwydiarth in the county of Montgomery, Esq., by whom he had issue:
 - i. *Owen*, who married Mary, daughter and heir of Edward Lloyd ab Hugh Lloyd of Blaen Ial.
 - ii. *Peter*, a merchant of Bruges.
 - iii. *James*, of — College, Cambridge, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Robinson of Gwersyllt.
 - iv. *Jane*, the wife of Edward Puleston of Llwyn-y-Cnotiau.
 - v. *Elizabeth*, married to Robert Wynn of Eyarth.²

1613.—*Thomas Goodman of Plas Uchaf*, in Llanfair-Dyffryn-Clwyd, Esq., was the eldest son of Gawen Goodman and Elen, his wife, daughter of Thomas Gruffydd of Pant-y-Llongdu, Esq., descended from Ednowain Bendew. He married, first, Lowry, daughter and heir of Thomas ab Maurice ab John ab Meredydd, by whom he

¹ Burke's *Landed Gentry*, art. "Griffith of Penpompren."

² Add. MS. 9865.

had issue, (1), *Simon Goodman*, who sold Plas Uchaf to — *Thelwall, Esq.* Mr. Goodman's second wife was *Penelope*, daughter of *Richard Glynton*, of *Drayton* in the county of *Salop*, by whom he was the father of *Charles Goodman*, who married *Rebecca*, daughter of *Richard Langford* of *Trefalyn, Esq.* The issue of this marriage was an only daughter and heir, *Penelope*, who became the wife of *Marmaduke Lloyd*, of *Newtown* in the county of *Montgomery, Esq.*, the son of *Edward Lloyd* of *Newtown*.¹

1614.—*William Wynn of Melai, Esq.* This sheriff was the eldest son of *William Wynn of Melai* (high sheriff in 1586) by *Elen*, his wife. He married *Mary*, daughter and coheir of *Sir Richard Clough* of *Plâs-Clough*, near *Denbigh*, and of *Maenan Abbey* in the county of *Carnarvon, Knt.* By this marriage he became possessor of *Maenan Abbey*. He had issue, a son and heir, *John Wynn*, who married *Dorothy*, daughter of the high sheriff for 1609, and whose line is now represented by *Lord Newborough*.

1615.—*Richard Williams of Ruthin, Esq.*

1616.—*Thomas Powell of Horsley, Esq.* (See 1591.)

1617.—*Thomas Needham of Clocaenog, Esq.*

1618.—*Robert Wynn of Berthdu, Esq.*, was the eldest son of *Hugh Wynn Gruffydd* of *Berthddu, Esq.*, the sheriff for 1609. He married *Catherine*, daughter of *John Gruffydd* of *Carnarvon, Esq.*, and was the father of *Col. Hugh Wynn* of *Bodysgallen*, who married *Mary*, daughter of *Sir John Bodfel* of *Lleyn*.² The last representative of this family, the *Rev. Hugh Wynn*, by his wife, *Catherine*, daughter of *Gruffydd Vaughan* of *Corsygedol, Esq.*, had a daughter and heir, *Margaret*, who married *Sir Roger Mostyn*, fifth baronet. By which marriage *Sir Roger* became possessed of *Berthddu* and *Bodysgallen*.³

1619.—*Ffoulk Lloyd, Esq.* The *Denbigh* list for this year has "*Foulk Myddelton of Llansilin, Esq.*" The latter gentleman was the eighth son of *Richard Myddelton*,

¹ Harl. MS. 1964.

² *Y Brython*, v, 383.

³ *Pennant*, iii, 139-40.

governor of Denbigh Castle, and brother to Sir Thomas Myddelton, lord mayor of London, and Sir Hugh Myddelton. In 1660 he was elected common councilman of Denbigh *vice* Col. George Twistleton disfranchised. He married Gwenhwyfar, daughter and heir of Richard Wynn, of Bodlith in Llansilin, Esq. His estate, in 1660, was valued at £600 per ann., and he was deemed fit and qualified to serve as a knight of the Royal Oak.¹

1620.—*William Vaughan of Eyton, Esq.*

1621.—*Hugh Meredydd of Pentre-bychan*, in the parish of Wrexham, Esq., was the eldest son of Ellis Meredydd of Pentre-bychan, Esq., by Anne, his wife, daughter of Roger Myddelton of Plâs Cadwgan, who, in right of his wife, Anne, heiress of Cadwgan Hall, became possessed of that property, and transmitted it to its present possessor, Col. Biddulph of Chirk Castle. He married Mary, daughter of Francis Yardley, of Erbistock and Farndon, Esq., by whom he had issue three sons:

1. *Ellis*, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Hugh Curre, Esq., of Kildwick in Yorkshire. He was the ancestor of the present Henry Warter Meredydd of Pentre-bychan.

II. *Hugh.*

III. *William.*

And two daughters, *Elizabeth* and *Mary*. This family is descended from Eunydd ab Gwernwy, lord of Dyffryn Clwyd and Trefalyn, chief of the fourteenth noble tribe of North Wales and Powys.

Arms.—*Azure*, a lion rampant *or*.²

1622.—*Sir Edward Trevor of Bryn-cynallt, Knt.*, was the son and successor of John Trefor of Bryn-cynallt, Esq., the son of Edward Trevor of the same place, descended, through Edward Trevor, constable of Whittington Castle, from Ednyfed Gam. Sir John was thrice married. By his first wife, Ann, daughter of Nicholas Ball, alderman of Dublin, he had issue:

¹ *Camb. Quart.*, ii, 169. The Harl. MS. 2299 gives Gwenllian as his wife.

² *Landed Gentry*, art. "Meredith of Pentre-bychan."

i. *John Trevor* of Bryn-cynallt, the father of Sir John Trevor, Master of the Rolls.

ii. *Arthur*, who became a judge.

And two daughters, *Frances* and *Eva*. By his second wife, Rose, daughter of Henry Usher, Archbishop of Armagh, he had issue:

i. *Mark Trevor*, governor of Chester, who "wounded the tyrant Cromwell in the face."

ii. *Edward*.

And three daughters, *Margaret*, *Sarah*, and *Magdalen*.¹ Sir Edward married, thirdly, Margaret, daughter of William Lloyd of Halchdyn, relict of Thomas Ireland, Esq., and of John Jeffreys of Acton, Esq.

1623.—*Ffoulk Lloyd of Foxhall*, in the parish of Henllan, Esq., was the eldest son of John Lloyd of Foxhall, Esq., by Sybil, his first wife, daughter of Richard Glynn, Esq. A Ffoulk Lloyd occurs as bailiff of Denbigh in 1621, and alderman in the year 1622.² This sheriff married Alice, daughter of Ffoulk ab Thomas ab Goronwy, Esq., by whom he had issue, a son, *Hugh Lloyd*, the sheriff in 1636.

Arms.—Quarterly *or* and *arg.*, two roebucks passant countercharged of the field.

1624.—*Thomas ab Rhys Wynn of Giler, Esq.*, was the second son by Margaret his wife (daughter of Ellis ab William ab Gruffydd ab Jenkin) of Rhys Wynn the second son of Cadwaladr ab Maurice of Voelas, Esq., high sheriff in 1548. He married Elizabeth daughter of John of Penmachno in the county of Carnarvon, and was the father of *Robert Price* the high sheriff in 1658, together with another son *John* and three daughters.³

1625.—*Sir Richard Grosvenor of Eytton, Bart.* This gentleman was the eldest son of Richard Grosvenor of Eaton and Christian his wife daughter of Sir Richard Brooke of Norton Priory in the county of Chester. He was created a baronet 23rd February, 1621-2, served the office of sheriff for the county of Chester in 1624,

¹ Ex. pedigrees by John Reynolds of Oswestry, 1739.

² *Anc. and Mod. Denbigh*, 112.

³ Harl. MS. 1971.

was mayor of Chester and M.P. for the county in 1625. He married first Lettice second daughter of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, Knt., by Mary his first wife, daughter and sole heir of Christopher Holford of Holford, Esq., by whom he had issue :

I. *Sir Richard* his heir married to Sydney daughter of Sir Roger Mostyn, Knt. of Mostyn, in the county of Flint. He was a great sufferer during the civil wars, having had his landed property sequestered.¹

II. *Christian* married to Sir Francis Gamul, Knt.

III. *Mary* and IV. *Grace*, both died unmarried.

Sir Richard married secondly Elizabeth daughter of Sir Thomas Wilbraham, Knt. of Woodhey ; and thirdly, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Peter Warburton, Knt., and relict of Thomas Stanley, Esq., of Alderley, but had no issue by them. He died in 1645.

Arms.—*Azure*, a garb or.

REIGN OF CHARLES I.²

1626. *George Bostock of Holt, Esq.*

1627. *Edward Price of Llwyn Ynn, Esq.*

1628. *Sir Henry Salusbury of Llyweni, Bart.*, was the eldest son of Sir John Salusbury of Llyweni, Knt., generally known as Sir John the Strong, M.P., for Denbighshire in 1597 and in 1601, by his wife Ursula, daughter of Henry Stanley, fourth Earl of Derby. Sir Henry was created a baronet November 18th, 1619, and married Hester daughter of Sir Thomas Myddelton of Chirk Castle, by whom he had issue :

I. *Sir Thomas Salusbury* the second baronet, who married Hester daughter of Sir Edward Tyril, Bart., of Thorndon in the county of Bucks, by

¹ Burke's *Peerage*, art. "Westminster."

² Charles I began to reign March 27th, 1625. Greater part of the shrievalty of the preceding sheriff fell within the first year of his reign. The king was proclaimed at Denbigh "upon Mondae iij daie of April by the aldermen."

whom he had issue a son and heir, *John*, upon whose death the baronetcy expired, and *Hester* married to Sir Robert Cotton of Combermere, ancestors of the late Viscount Combermere. "She died on ye 7th day of Oct. 1710 aged 73; having brought her husband five sons and eleven daughters, from whom she lived to see above a hundred of her offspring."¹

II. *Ursula*, who became the wife of Sir Edward Lloyd of Berthlloyd in the county of Montgomery, Knt., one of the gentlemen deemed fit and qualified to serve as knight of the Royal Oak.²

III. *Elizabeth*.

Sir Henry died in 1632.

1629.—*Edward Meredydd of Stanstay, Esq.*

1630.—*William Robinson of Gwersyllt, Esq.* was the eldest son of Nicholas Robinson, D.D., Bishop of Bangor 1566-1585, by Jane his wife, daughter of Sir Randle Brereton, Knt.³ He was brother of Hugh Robinson, D.D., Archdeacon of Gloucester, and Head Master of Winchester school. William Robinson was high sheriff for Anglesey in 1632, serving for Monachdy—an estate on the sea coast opposite to the Skerry Lighthouse—which formerly belonged to the see of Bangor, but was alienated by Dr. Robinson, bishop of the see, "to one of his sons."⁴ He married Jane, daughter of John Pryse of Newtown Hall, Esq., who was high sheriff for Montgomeryshire in 1568.

1631.—*Robert Wynn of Voelas, Esq.* was the eldest son of Cadwaladr Wynn of Voelas, Esq., sheriff in 1605. On the death of his father in 1612 the crown granted a lease of the estate to Humphrey Jones, Esq., during the minority of the heir. He came of age in 1628,⁵ and married Jane daughter of Edward Thelwall of Plas-y-Ward, Esq., and was the father of *Cadwaladr Wynn*, who was twice married, first to Grace daughter of Hugh

¹ Anc. and Mod. Denbigh, 346.

³ Harl. MS. 1978.

² Camb. Quart., i.

⁴ Willis's *Bangor*, 245, note.

⁵ Arch. Camb. 1860, p. 112, ped.

Williams, Esq. in 1678. Secondly, to Sydney Thelwall by whom he had issue a son *Cadwaladr Wynn* ancestor of Jane Wynn, who became the wife of Charles second son of Heneage, third earl of Aylesford, by whom she had issue Charles Wynn-Griffith (who assumed the surname of Wynn) of Voelas, Esq.¹

Robert Wynn was also sheriff in 1664.

1632.—*William Dolben of Denbigh, Esq.* was the brother of David Dolben, D.D., Bishop of Bangor, and the son of Robert Wynn Dolben of Segrwyd, Esq., (ab Robert Dolben grandson of Robert Dolben, who had the demesne of Segrwyd granted him by Henry VIII, for his services at the battle of Blackheath²), and Jane daughter of Owen ab Reinallt of Llynllwygwy in Carnarvonshire. William Dolben's name figures prominently in the records of Denbigh as bailiff in 1621, alderman in 1622, 1626, and 1629, and high sheriff in 1632. He died the 13th of May, 1643, and was buried in the chancel of Llanrhaidr church. By his wife Jane daughter of Edward Holland of Conway he left a son.

John Dolben who succeeded him at Segrwyd (or Segroyt). He was a Royalist officer and had his estate sequestered. He died the 10th of April, 1662, leaving by his wife Jane the daughter of John Thelwall of Plas Côch, Esq., one son *John* who died in 1709, and three daughters co-heirs to their brother. (1.) *Jane*, married to John Mostyn high sheriff in 1749. (2.) *Mary* the wife of John Wilson of Ruthin, Esq., and a third who married Wynne ancestor to Lord Newborough.³

Arms.—*Sable*, a helmet closed inter three pheons pointed to the centre *argent*.

1633.—*John Parry of Plas-yn-Rhal, Esq.*

1634.—*Roger Holland of Hendre Fawr in the parish of Abergele, Esq.*, was the eldest son of Daniel Holland of Hendrefawr, Esq., by Elizabeth his wife daughter of Morris Kyffin, Esq. By his wife Jane Parry he was the father of *Roger* whose heiress Catherine married

¹ Burke's *Peerage*, art. "Aylesford."

² Harl. MS. 1978.

³ *Anc. and Mod. Denbigh*, p. 207.

William Parry of Llwyn-Ynn, Esq. Abergele church contains a monument erected to the memory of Catherine Parry.¹ Roger Holland died in the year 1640.

1635.—*Hugh Lloyd Rossendale of Denbigh, Esq.* was the eldest son of Richard Lloyd Rossendale of Denbigh, Esq., by Lowry daughter of John ab Edward Lloyd of Llys Vassi, Esq. In the corporate records of Denbigh we find an entry under the date 1622, June 13. Hugh Lloyd Rossendale, elected common councilman in 1624, he appears on the list of bailiffs, and alderman in 1626, and an entry dated July 10th, 1636 states that "John Madocke, gent. (to be councilman) *vice* Hugh Lloyd Rossendale, deceased."² So that he appears to have survived his shrievalty for a very short time.

Arms.—Quarterly *or* and *azure* four roebucks counter-charged.

1636. *Hugh Lloyd of Foxhall, Esq.*, was the eldest son of Ffoulk Lloyd of Foxhall, Esq. (sheriff in 1623) by Alice his wife. On Dec. 1, 1631, he was elected councilman of Denbigh *vice* Sir Hugh Myddelton, deceased, and the municipal records further inform us that on June 18th, 1647, Sir William Myddelton, Bart., governor of Denbigh castle, was elected common councilman *vice* Hugh Lloyd of Foxhall, deceased.³ He was the father of *Ffoulk Lloyd* of Foxhall, who was the father of *Hugh Lloyd* the high sheriff in 1669.

1637 — *William Wynn of Melai* in the parish of Llanfair-Talhaiarn, Esq. This sheriff was the eldest son of John Wynn of Melai and Maenan Abbey, Esq., by Dorothy his wife (*ante*). He was a colonel in the service of Charles I, and was slain in an attack made upon the Parliamentary garrison of Wem, and buried at St. Chad's church, Shrewsbury, 27th October, 1643.⁴ He married Barbara daughter of Iefan ab Howel Llwyd of Dulasau, Esq., by whom he left issue a son.

John Wynn of Melai and Maenan, Esq., who died in

¹ Anc. and Mod. Denbigh, p. 205.

² Ibid., p. 131.

³ Ibid., pp. 130, 133.

⁴ *Landed Gentry*, art. "Wynne of Garthewin."

1688, leaving by Dorothy his wife daughter of Owen Salusbury of Rug in the county of Merioneth, a son and heir *William* who succeeded him at Melai.

1638.—*Edward Maurice of Glan-Cynlleth, Esq.*

1639.—*Sir Thomas Powell of Horsley, Bart.* was the eldest son of Thomas Powell, Esq. (*ante*), and Dorothy his wife. He was created a baronet in 1628, and married Catherine daughter of Sir John Egerton, Knt. by whom he had issue :

I. *John Powell* of Horsley, Esq., married to Margaret daughter and heir of Edward Puleston of Trefalyn, Esq., and had issue (1) *Sir Thomas Powell* high sheriff in 1657. (2) *Catherine* married to — Rossendale of Wrexham, Esq., (3) *Frances*.

II. *Worseley Powell*.

III. *Frances* married first to Edward son of Sir William Norris of Speke, Knt., secondly to John Edwards of Stanstay, Esq.

1640.—*Richard Langford of Allington, Esq.*, was the eldest son of John Langford of Trefalyn, Esq., by his wife Catherine, daughter and heir of William of Gresford. He married Margaret, daughter of John Almer, Esq., by whom he had issue a son and heir *John*, the high sheriff for 1677, four other sons—*Edward, William, Roger, Matthew*, and three daughters, *Catherine, Elizabeth, Ann*.

Arms.—*Gules, a wildgoose argent.*

1641.—*John Vaughan of Henllan, Esq.*

1642.—*John Billot of Moreton, Esq.* was the eldest son of Edmund Billot of Moreton, Esq. (eldest son of Thomas Billot, high sheriff in 1656), and Amy his wife daughter of Anthony Grosvenor of Diddleston, Esq. He was born in 1594, and he was living in 1649. He married a daughter of — Bentley of Afres in the county of Stafford, by whom he had issue three sons.

I. *Edward*, who died without issue.

II. *Sir John Billot* of Moreton, high sheriff of Cheshire in 1663. He married Anne, daughter of Roger Wilbraham of Dartford, by whom he had issue

two sons *Thomas* and *John*, and one daughter *Anne*.

III. *George*.

Arms.—*Argent* on chief *gules*, three cinquefoils of the field.¹

1643.—*John Thelwall of Plas Coch, Esq.*, was the son and heir of *John Thelwall of Bathafarn Park, Esq.*, and *Elizabeth*, daughter and heir of *Robert ab John Wynn of Bryn Cynwrig*. He married *Jane*, daughter of *Edward Morgan of Gwylgre (Golden Grove), Esq.*, and had issue:

- i. *John Thelwall*, high sheriff in 1672.
- II. *Eubule*, married to *Mary*, daughter and heir of *William Parry of Pont-y-go or Nantclwyd*, by whom he had issue: (1), *Thomas*; (2), *Eubule*; (3), *Orlando*; and (4), *Bevis*. The *Thelwalls* of *Nantclwyd* continued to reside there for about sixty years, when an heiress took the estate by marriage to the *Kenricks* of *Chester*.
- III. *Catherine*, married to *John Wynn, Esq.*
- IV. *Dorothy*, married to *John Gruffydd of Bloxham*.
- v. *Jane*, the wife of *John Dolben*, son of the sheriff for 1632.
- VI. *Elizabeth*, the wife of *Charles Salusbury of Pool Park, near Ruthin, Esq.*, son of *William Salusbury of Rug*.
- VII. *Mary*, married to *Piers Conway of Rhuddlan*.
- VIII. *Martha*, married to *Peter Williams of Plas-onn, Esq.*
- IX. *Judith* married to *Eubule Hughes of Disserth, Esq.*
- x. *Sarah*, married to *Rowland White of Ruthin*.
- XI. *Hester*, married to *Matthew Price, Esq., M.P.*, of the *Park*, in the county of *Montgomery*.

Sir Eubule Thelwall, Knt., Principal of *Jesus College, Oxford*, a younger brother of *John Thelwall of Bathafarn Park*, "bought an estate in *Llanychan* parish, whereon he built *Plas Coch*, which in his lifetime he gave to *John Thelwall, Esq.*, heir to his eldest brother. Out of great kindness to his friends and relations, he

¹ Harl. MS. 1971.

(Sir Eubule) resorted to this said house of Plas Coch yearly, at the time of the long vacations, when and where the best of the gentry of North Wales were wont to frequent in visit of him, and to stay some time with him."¹

Arms.—*Gules* on a fess *or* inter three boars' heads coupé *argent*, three trefoils *vert*.

1644, 1645, 1646.—*Sir Evan Lloyd of Bodidris in Yale, Knt.* It appears that this gentleman held the shrievalty for the term of three years during the troublous period of the civil war. In all probability he was only appointed officially for the first year, and was allowed to retain the office until affairs became more settled, and the appointments of sheriffs resumed their usual course. He was the eldest son of John Lloyd of Bodidris, Esq., by his first wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir Bevis Thelwall, Knt. He was created a baronet in 1646, and was a great sufferer on account of his firm adherence to the cause of royalty. Pennant² relates the following anecdote concerning him: "I visited a house noted for being the residence of one *Edward Davies*, a low partizan of the usurper during the civil wars. He was best known in his own country by the title of *Cneifiwr Glas*, or the *Blue Fleecer*, from his rapacity and the colour of his cloaths, and was considered as a fit instrument of the tyranny of the times. In 1654 he was appointed by the commissioners for sequestration steward of the court-leet within the manor of Valle Crucis, being recommended to the office by Colonel George Twistleton.³ The *Cneifiwr* seems to have not been over true to his own party, when his interest stood in the way. He was accustomed to take even the royalists under his protection on receiving a proper reward. He once concealed Sir Evan Llwyd of Bodidris, at a time that a considerable sum was ordered for his apprehension. He lodged him in a

¹ From a family MS. quoted in Burke's *Landed Gentry*, art. "Thelwall of Llanbedr."

² *Tours*, ii, p. 11.

³ The governor of Denbigh Castle, after its surrender in 1646. He was not only military commander of the district, but had also absolute control over municipal affairs. (*Rec. of Den.*, 134-5.)

cellar below the parlour: then summoning his people, ordered them, in a seeming rage, to sally out in quest of Sir Evan; stamping his foot, and declaring that if the knight was *above ground*, he would have him." Sir Evan married Anne, daughter of Sir Charles Williams of Llangibby, Monmouthshire, Knt.; and dying in October, 1663, was succeeded by his son,

Sir Evan Lloyd, second baronet, who married Mary, daughter and coheir of Rhys Tanat of Abertanat, Esq., and dying the 6th of April, 1700, left an only surviving daughter and heir, *Margaret*, who married Richard Vaughan of Corsygedol.

Arms.—Paly of eight or and gules.

1647.—*John Kynaston of Plas Kynaston*, in the parish of Rhiwabon, Esq., was the son of Roger Kynaston of Oswestry, attorney-at-law, who built the house of Plas Kynaston at Cefn-y-Carneddau, an estate which he acquired by his marriage with Anne, daughter and heir of Richard Eyton of Cefn-y-Carneddau. Roger Kynaston was the son of Humphrey Kynaston, attorney-at-law, second son of Roger Kynaston of Moreton in Shropshire. John Kynaston, the sheriff, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Oliver Lloyd of Bryngwyn, in the co. of Montgomery, and was the father of (1), *John*, who married and died *s. p.*; (2), *Humphrey*, who succeeded his father at Bryngwyn, and was high sheriff of Denbighshire, 1694; of Montgomeryshire, 1693.¹

1648.—*Robert Sontley of Sontley, Esq.*, was the eldest son of Robert Sontley of Sontley, Esq., the high sheriff for the years 1598 and 1611. He was a colonel in the royal army and married Ursula a daughter of Mr. Corbet of Longnor in the county of Salop, and died 5th Sept., 1657, leaving issue a son and heir, *Robert Sontley* of Sontley, Burton Hall, in the parish of Gresford and Plas Uchaf in the parish of Rhiwabon, Esq. He married a daughter of Mr. Hewett of Shire-Oaks in the county of Nottingham, and was the father of an

¹ *Ex inf.* Hon. and Rev. G. T. O. Bridgeman, M.A. Burke's *Landed Gentry*, art. "Owen of Woodhouse."

heiress *Anne*, who became the wife of John Hill of Rowley Mansion, Shrewsbury, Esq., who was high sheriff in 1697.

THE COMMONWEALTH AND PROTECTORATE.¹

1649.—*Thomas Ravenscroft of Pickhill, Esq.*, was the eldest son by Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Williams of Vaenol, Bart., of Thomas Ravenscroft of Bretton, Esq. He married Sarah daughter of Thomas Style of Merton in Surrey, by whom he had issue a son, *Thomas*, who was high sheriff in 1686.

This family descend from William de Ravenscroft, Lord of Ravenscroft in the co. of Chester.

Arms.—*Arg.* a chev. inter three ravens' heads erased, *sable*.

1650.—*Richard Myddelton of Llansilin, Esq.*, was the son of Foulk Myddelton of Plâs Newydd in Bodlith, eighth son of Richard Myddelton of Denbigh, was one of the gentlemen nominated to be a knight of the Royal Oak,² and was a younger brother of Sir Thomas and Sir Hugh Myddelton. The mother of Richard Myddelton was Gwenhwyfar (Gwenllian according to Harl. MS. 2299), daughter and heir of Richard Wynne of Bodlith in the parish of Llansilin, Esq., a descendant of Madog Kyffin. This sheriff left a son and heir *Richard*, who was the grandfather of *Elizabeth*, heiress of Bodlith, who married Thomas Meredith of Pentrebychan, councillor at law, living in 1739,³ ancestor of the Merediths of Pentrebychan.

1651.—*William Wynn of Garthgynnan* in the parish of Llanfair Dyffryn-Clwyd, Esq., Prothonotary of Wales, was the fourth son of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, Bart., high sheriff in 1606. He purchased Branäs in the co. of Merioneth from Humphrey Branäs, Esq., and married

¹ Charles I was beheaded Jan. 30, 1648-9.

² *Camb. Quart.*, ii, 169.

³ From pedigrees by John Reynolds of Oswestry. See also *Royal Tribes*, 118; and *Landed Gentry*, art. "Meredith of Pentrebychan."

Jane daughter and heir of Thomas Lloyd of Gwern-y-Brechdyn, Esq., and had issue a son *Richard*, who succeeded his father at Branas and Garthgynnan, and was high sheriff for Merioneth in 1667. He married Catherine daughter of Thomas, Viscount Bulkeley, by whom he had issue three children who died infants. Mr. Wynn was succeeded in his estate by his only sister *Sidney* the wife of Edward Thelwall of Plas-y-Ward, Esq., whose eldest daughter and heir *Jane* became the wife of Sir William Williams of Llanforda, Bart., ancestor of the present Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.¹

1652.—*Thomas Ball of Burton, Esq.*

1653.—*John Edwards of Chirk, Esq.*, was probably John Edwards of Plas Newydd in the parish of Chirk, Esq., son of John Edwards of the same place by his wife Jane, daughter of Sir Richard Sherborne, Knt. He married Magdalene, daughter of Randle Broughton of Broughton, Esq., by whom he had issue two daughters co-heirs, (1) *Jane* married to Edward Winter, Esq., and (2) *Mary*, who became the wife of Robert Salusbury of Flint, Esq.²

1654.—*William Edwards of Eyton, Esq.*

1655.—*John Jeffreys of Acton, Esq.*, was the eldest son of John Jeffreys of Acton near Wrexham, and Margaret his wife daughter of William Lloyd of Halchdyn in the parish of Hanmer, Esq. He married Margaret daughter of Sir Thomas Ireland, Knt., and had issue :

i. *John Jeffreys* of Acton, Esq., married Esther, daughter of Sir Gruffydd Williams of Penrhyn, Bart., and dying in 1670 aged 34, left a son Sir Gruffydd Jeffreys of Acton.

ii. *Edward.*

iii. *Thomas* styled by Pennant,³ a "knight of Alcantara and for the honour of the descendants of Tudor Trevor, from whom the Jeffreys are sprung, the proofs of his descent were admired even by the

¹ Add. MS. 9865.

² Harl. MS. 2299.

³ Tours in Wales, i, 408.

proud Spaniards among whom he had long resided as consul at Alicant and Madrid. He rendered himself so acceptable to the Spanish ministry as to be recommended to our Court to succeed Lord Lansdowne as British envoy ; but the revolution put a stop to his promotion." Fine full-length portraits of him and his brother George were removed from Acton to Erddig.¹

IV. *Charles.*

V. *William.*

VI. *George*, who was born about the year 1548, and educated at Shrewsbury, St. Paul's, Westminster. He was entered of the Lower Temple May 19th, 1663, was recorder of London at the age of thirty and was appointed solicitor to the Duke of York. He was made a Welsh judge in 1680, knighted and made chief justice of Chester, and in 1681 obtained a baronetcy. In 1683 he was appointed Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and on the accession of James II was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Jeffreys of Wem in the co. of Salop. After the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth he was placed at the head of the special commission appointed to try the rebels, and his ready zeal in carrying out the sanguinary directions of the king obtained for him a notorious celebrity not soon forgotten by the reader of Lord Macaulay's account of the "Bloody Assize." In 1685 he was appointed Lord Chancellor and in 1689 was committed to the Tower on a charge of high treason and died there April 19th at the early age of forty-two.² He married first Mary³

¹ Note to Pennant, i, 406.

² The details of his life may be found in his memoirs by Woolrych, Lord Campbell's *Lives of the Chancellors*, Fosse's *Judges*, and Macaulay's *History*.

³ Pennant thus describes the manner in which this marriage was contracted: "About this time he made clandestine addresses to the daughter of a wealthy merchant, in which he was assisted by a young lady, the daughter of a clergyman. The affair was discovered, and

daughter of Thomas Needham, M.A., by whom he had issue. (1) *John* Lord Jeffreys who succeeded to the title and estates, but who died in 1703 without male issue, the title became extinct. By his wife, Lady Charlotte Herbert, daughter and heir of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, he had issue an only daughter and heir Henrietta Louisa married to Thomas first Earl of Pomfret. (2) *Margaret* married to Sir Thomas Stringer; and (3) *Sarah* married to Capt. Harnage of the marines.

Lord Jeffreys married secondly Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Blodworth, Knt., and relict of Sir John Jones of Furman in Gloucestershire.

VII. *James*, canon of Canterbury, grandfather of Dr. Jeffreys, Rector of Whitford, Residentiary of St. Pauls.¹ The canon died young of a broken heart at the sad conduct and character of his brother.²

VIII. *Margaret*, married to Robert Belton of Shrewsbury, Esq. The old man outlived all his sons. There was a portrait of him at Acton, taken when he was in mourning for his seventh son. The Jeffreys come through Cynwrig ab Rhiwallon from Tudor Trefor.

Arms.—Quarterly, first and fourth *ermine*, a lion rampant *sable*, for Cynwrig ab Rhiwallon, second and third Tudor Trefor.

1656.—*Sir Owen Wynn of Gwydir, Bart.* was the third son of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, Bart., and succeeded his brother Sir Richard in the title and estates in 1649, and was high sheriff of Carnarvonshire in 1650. He married Grace, daughter of Hugh Williams of Weeg in the county of Carnarvon, Esq., and died the 13th

the *confidante* turned out of doors. Jeffreys, with a generosity unknown to him in his prosperous days, took pity and married her. She proved an excellent wife, and lived to see him Lord Chief Justice."

¹ Edwards, *St. Asaph*, 420.

² Pennant, i, 408; *Royal Tribes*, 110. Pennant makes this younger brother to be a dean of Rochester, and states that his death occurred "on his road to visit his brother, the Chancellor, when under confinement in the Tower."

August, 1660, aged sixty-eight, being succeeded by his son.

Sir Richard Wynn of Gwydir, fourth baronet, who by his wife Sarah daughter of Sir Thomas Myddelton of Chirk Castle, Bart., was the father of an only daughter and heir, *Mary*, who by her marriage with Robert Marquis of Lindsay, afterwards Duke of Ancaster, conveyed the Gwydir estates to that family, now represented by the Right Hon. Sir Alberic Drummond Willoughby Lord Willoughby de Eresby.

The Wynns of Gwydir were descended from Owain Gwynedd, Prince of Gwynedd.

Arms.—Quarterly, first and fourth *vert* three eagles displayed in a fess *or*; for Owain Gwynedd second and third *gules*, three lions passant in pale *argent*, Gruffydd ab Cynan, King of Gwynedd.

1657.—*Sir Thomas Powell of Horseley, Bart.* was the son of John Powell of Horseley, Esq., by Margaret his wife. He married Mary, daughter of William Conway of Bodrhyddan in the county of Flint, and was the father of the high sheriff for 1684, and two daughters, *Elizabeth* and *Margaret*.

1658.—*Robert Price of Geeler, Esq.* was the eldest son of Thomas ab Rhys (or Price) of Geeler, the high sheriff in 1624. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Owen Lloyd of Dulassau, Esq., by whom he had issue a son and heir.

Thomas Price of Giler, who married Margaret, daughter and heir of Bwlch-y-beddau and was the father of (1) *Robert Price*, one of the barons of the exchequer from 1702 to 1726, and founder of the baronet family of the Prices of Foxley in the county of Hereford—the present representatives of the ancient family of Giler.

(2) *Thomas*, (3) *Charles*, (4) *Elizabeth*, (5)

(6) *Janet*, (7) *Anne*, (8) *Grace*.

1659.—*Edward Vaughan of Llwydiarth, Esq.*

J. Y. W. LLOYD.

(To be continued.)

CROMLECHS IN NORTH WALES.

THE great question whether all cromlechs are the perfect or imperfect remains of sepulchral chambers or the work of druidic hands, or at any rate intended for druidic purposes, must in the year 1869 be considered finally and satisfactorily settled. It is not impossible, however, that there are still to be found those who cling to the ancient faith as taught by Stukely, Rowlands, and others of that school, and who will still insist on seeing an altar in the covering slab of a grave. Such persons must be given up as hopeless, as they show what little weight the unanswerable arguments and proofs on the other side have with them. They may allege, however, in reply, that it is not denied that druids did once exist and that they did sacrifice on altars. What has become of them? Why are they the sole missing relics of a race or races that are supposed to have left such numerous monuments of themselves? Even in those wild and remote districts where such monuments exist in the greatest numbers, thus indicating the extent and perhaps duration of these primitive races, we cannot find an altar—if what we would call such are nothing but sepulchral monuments. This kind of argument hardly requires an answer, although it cannot be denied that the non-existence of druidic altars has been a stumbling-block in more than one instance. Thus a few years ago Dr. Fouquet of Vannes believed he had at last discovered this long-lost relic of druidic faith. He was too well acquainted with the nature and character of cromlechs to confound them with altars, but he detected in certain natural rocks, projecting from the ground, the object of his pursuit. All that is known with any certainty about the altars on which druids actually sacrificed is that they consisted of natural masses of rock, but Dr. Fouquet adds other distinguishing marks which he considers as certain indications

of a veritable altar. These are the *gorge* and the *gradin*, features which do not admit of an easy explanation without drawings. The *gorge*, however, appears to be a natural depression running round the lower portion of the rock, forming a kind of hollow moulding. Borlase, (*Antiquities of Cornwall*, p. 173), gives representations of two examples of this hollow depression, which he considers entirely artificial, but in this respect he is as much in error as in his assignation of the stones themselves; for he calls them "stone deities," and his mode of reasoning is remarkable enough to be here mentioned. "As these stones," says he, "are evidently shaped by art and for no conceivable purpose either civil, military, or domestic, I conclude them stone deities, their plint (*sic*) designed perhaps to express the stability of their god, and the roundness of the upper part his eternity." One of these two stones, the less rounded one of the two, is here reproduced from his work, and is said to have



No. 1. A Stone Deity of Borlase.

stood close to a fine stone circle in St. Mary (Scilly Isles) which was in existence during his time. On a reference to the cut, the *gorge* will be easily recognised dividing the stone into two portions, the lower one of which is Borlase's "plint." Had it been furnished with a "*gradin*" also, it would have been a veritable altar in the eyes of Dr. Fouquet. There may indeed possibly have been one, as this stone is entirely of natural formation, but it would have attracted no more attention than the examples Dr. Fouquet himself has given in his little book. This *gradin* is, in fact, a natural shouldering or spreading out of the lower part of the stone, forming so low a step as to be in many instances level with the ground.

There is, however, a circumstance in this particular

stone which should be mentioned, and that is, that on its upper surface were thirteen "perfect rock-basins," to use the language of Borlase, and which he confidently asserts to be artificial. If this assertion is correct, the presence of these hollows would have been still more conclusive evidence in Dr. Fouquet's estimation as regards the truth of his views; for he maintains that as it was equally forbidden by druidic and Mosaic law "to lift up a tool" against an altar, that is a stone altar, [for it is clear that the Mosaic law refers to stone altars only], so the first missionaries would make it their chief care, not only to destroy by main force all such objects of pagan superstition, but also to desecrate them, even after such violent mutilation, by cutting such hollows and markings on them. In many instances the desecration might be much more easily effected, and was certainly as efficacious, as the more laborious breaking up a huge rock. This is Dr. Fouquet's view of the subject, which, unfortunately for it and for himself, he proceeds to confirm by what he calls an invariable rule, namely, that these cups or hollows *never* exist on stones, which men have placed in position, such as cromlechs and pillar stones, but are invariably found only on rocks or stones in their natural position. The former, he says, being merely sepulchral remains were spared, not merely because they were not objects of superstition, but also because they were as graves, to be protected from violence and desecration. Therefore, none of these hollows were cut on them, as are found on the natural rocks assumed to have been altars. But, unluckily for this theory, the reverse is in reality the case, not only in Brittany but more especially in these islands, as any one may judge by referring to Sir James Simpson's invaluable work on the subject. Dr. Fouquet's theory may therefore be considered finally disposed of and consigned to the company of other druidic theories, long since exploded.

All that can be said, therefore, on the subject, is that at present we know nothing about druidic altars, except

the very little, or almost nothing, to be gathered from one or two classical authors; and, if they have been so entirely annihilated, it is not unreasonable to assign their disappearance to missionary zeal; for there is abundant evidence that stone worship existed on an extensive scale long after Christianity had established itself in Western Europe. Hence the orders issued in the Councils of Arles (452) and of Tours (567). Laws and edicts regarding the same idolatrous practices were also promulgated by Charlemagne, and even down to the time of our Canute; so that, between secular and religious zeal, it is difficult to suppose that any monuments of such pagan superstition would be allowed to remain. Now, if this view is admitted as reasonable and probable, it must also be allowed some weight in the still disputed questions of our great circles of Wiltshire, Somersetshire, Cumberland, &c. If any of these, and especially the monuments of Stonehenge and Abury were druidic or heathen temples, as some able men, and among them Dr. Thurnam, have attempted to show, surely such important centres of pagan or druidic rites would have been the first monuments to be destroyed, whereas their remarkable preservation would indicate that they were in no way connected with such rites, but probably the chief and most important burial places of the district. Abury, it is true, has been sadly violated, so that little or nothing except its grand circular bank remains, but this barbarous destruction has been effected, not in early days by religious zeal, but in comparatively modern times by men probably more uncivilized and benighted than those whose zeal and labour erected such a memorial of themselves.

The theory of druidic altars being finally, it is to be hoped, disposed of, there still, as it appears, remain two questions connected with these megalithic remains, which may be still considered by some persons as not yet decided, although there is little difference of opinion as regards them among those who have given their attention to the subject. The first of these two questions is,

whether cromlechs may be divided into separate classes according to the number of stones of which they consist or from any peculiar circumstance of construction. The second is, whether it is to be considered as a rule without exception that all cromlechs were either concealed, or intended to be concealed and buried under a tumulus of earth, stone, or both materials.

It might, perhaps, be hardly necessary to remark on the first question, as the supposed division of such monuments into classes never was generally accepted, or would perhaps have been ever heard of, but that the division has been supported by a distinguished and well-known author. But since then this gentleman has, on further consideration of the subject, altered his view, and is inclined to think that no such classification can be made out. The error (for such it may be termed) has evidently arisen from a too partial and contracted survey of monuments of this kind, and in not making sufficient allowance for the due effect of destructive time through many centuries and the still more destructive agency of human beings. Hence it has arisen that too many have looked on the shattered ruins of a cromlech as the original monument itself. From the same cause appears to have arisen also another very doubtful theory, namely, that there was a distinct class of stone monuments, called by French writers, *Lichavens* or *Trilithons*. It is hardly necessary to explain that by these names is understood a structure consisting of two upright stones surmounted by a horizontal one—thus forming a convenient and durable gibbet from which the druids may have suspended those whom they thought deserved hanging. But nothing satisfactory is known about such a kind of monument, and their entire existence is very doubtful. But if any reliance can be placed on narratives recorded in the *Memoirs of the Institute of France*, such monuments did really exist. In the *Memoirs* for the year 7 of the new Republic is an account furnished by a M. Deslandes to M. Le Grand-d'Aussi, who communicated it to the Institute. This account stated, that on a large

plain near Auray there were from a hundred and fifty to one hundred and eighty stones grouped in threes—one horizontal one resting upon two upright ones. Such is the story, and, if these stone triplets were arranged in a circular form, we might almost fancy a second Stonehenge once existed in Brittany; but unfortunately, beyond this information furnished by M. Deslandes, nothing more is known, and it is a doubtful matter if it really ever existed; although at the same time it would appear strange that such a communication should be made and inserted in the proceedings of the Institute unless there was some foundation for it. M. Mahé, who might easily have known the writer of the notice, tells us, in his "*Morbihan*" (1825, p. 38), that he has made inquiries about this plain and these stones without any success, and as Auray is within a short drive of Vannes, of the church of which place M. Mahé was a canon, it seems almost impossible that these monuments could have existed without his knowing something about them. In the new edition of Ogée's "*Dictionary*," under Auray, no allusion to it whatsoever is made, and the same may be said of Delandre's history of the department, and of other writers. If any explanation of the difficulty may be offered, it might be suggested that the number and arrangement of stones have been greatly exaggerated, and that they may have been a group of ruined cromlechs some of which might have resembled the cromlech in the parish of St. Nicolas in North Pembrokeshire, and which would exactly correspond to the French Lichaven, as having one stone supported on two others.

The other question is whether it is to be laid down as a rule that all cromlechs were at one time hidden beneath earthen or stone mounds, or at least intended to be so hidden. On this point also there is no difference of opinion among those best qualified to form an opinion, although it cannot be denied that there still remain some dissentients, who maintain that in some cases it is either most improbable or impossible that

they were so concealed. If it could be ascertained, it would most likely turn out that such dissentients have had but limited opportunities of examining many such monuments, or that their experience is confined to such remains as exist in these islands; and as these remains, with one or two unimportant exceptions, are nothing but the scanty relics of once complete chambers, it is not likely that they have come across examples which still wholly or partially retained their tumuli of earth or stone. Two or three such ocular proofs would probably induce such doubters to assent to the more general opinion. One of the usual stock arguments brought forward by such is that in certain retired and bleak districts far removed from human population, there could have been no motive to remove the superincumbent soil or stones, as the great distance to which the soil must have been carried would have made the operation too costly, and stones were to be had from other and more convenient spots; or else it is sometimes alleged that in some situations neither soil nor stones to heap up a large mound could be procured except under immense difficulties. But such objections are in reality none at all; for it is impossible to say what may not have taken place during the centuries since these mounds were first heaped up, and how much succeeding populations have changed their habitats: for what are now the wildest and bleakest moors, far distant from the nearest human dwelling, frequently exhibit traces of having been thickly inhabited, so that no safe inference as regards these very early monuments can be drawn from their present isolation and condition. It is, no doubt, difficult to picture the enormous amount of labour it must have required to cover up a monument like that of the Pentre Evan cromlech in north Pembrokeshire, under which three tall riders on tall horses can sit, and yet leave a considerable space between the top of their hats and the covering-stone; or to conjecture, if such an enormous tumulus once covered it, what could have become of the material, for at pre-

sent there is not a vestige left of it on that bleak hill side. But all such difficulties and doubts must vanish while there are mounds still existing which would cover at once three such monuments as that of Pentre Evan.

Another argument has, however, lately been started by no less distinguished an individual than the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, who with serious gravity strongly protested against the theory of this universal covering up of these large chambers, because, as he argued at the Portmadoc meeting of last year, it was absurd to imagine that those who had put themselves to such expense and labour to erect these huge structures should immediately after, at a much greater amount of cost and labour proceed to hide them for ever from human sight. But Mr. Tite, unluckily for himself, forgot, for he could not have been ignorant of the fact, that both in this and other countries there do exist many such chambers of the largest size, still remaining under artificial mountains; for in some instances these are of such a size as to be mistaken for natural elevations. That they were covered up, and intended to be hidden, there can be no doubt. And what was thus the case in one instance may be assumed as at least probable in another. Mr. Tite and his objection may, therefore, be dismissed without further ceremony. But there is one very simple consideration which seems to settle the point more completely and satisfactorily than more elaborate arguments. If the people who built these massive chambers intended them as receptacles of the dead, their great object would be to take precautions that those receptacles should be as protected as possible from decay and desecration. This was evidently their great object, and well must they have carried out that object if they erected structures which in some instances have come down to us as perfect as the day on which they were closed up. It is true that much uncertainty still exists as to the real age of these megalithic monuments; but even if they are assigned to the latest period,

the number of centuries that have passed away since their first erection must be considerable. If it is then certain that the builders of such monuments determined that they should be as durable and secure as possible, what security or durability could the bare chambers offer, even supposing that they could procure such slabs of stone as would completely enclose the chambers without the addition of dry rubble masonry in the interstices, which when exposed is so easily removed. The uncovered chamber was, therefore, the worst kind of contrivance for such a purpose, while the covered one was the best or rather the only possible one. Hence also is to be explained the fact that in most instances the stones that form the walls and roofs of the chamber itself are of enormous thickness, as would be requisite to support such a weight of earth or stone.

M. Du Noyer has in the first number of the *Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland*, (1868) given an interesting account of what he terms "Primary" or "Earthfast" cromlechs, and which he considers quite a distinct class from the ordinary monument of that name, and an earlier form of what in the course of progressive structural improvement became the more perfect chamber. The peculiarity of this type is, that one end of the slab rests on the ground, the other end being raised from it and supported by one or more small blocks. Hitherto these have been thought ruined or unfinished structures, but he considers them never to have been intended to be different from their present form. French antiquaries used also to talk of demi-dolmens, which appear to have been not unlike these primary ones of M. Du Noyer at least in one feature, namely, one end of the slab resting on the ground. These demi-dolmens have, however, been generally looked upon simply as dilapidated dolmens, and, in spite of the high authority of M. Du Noyer on such matters, it is not impossible but his primary or earth fast cromlechs may on further examination turn out to be of the same kind. He gives four illustrations. In some of

them the supporting stones are very small, and unlike the usual supporters in the case of an ordinary cromlech ; but no inference can be drawn from this smallness, as there are instances in Wales where equally small or even smaller stones support a horizontal slab of considerable length and thickness. M. Du Noyer refers to the Bonnington Mains cromlech given in Wilson's *Prehistoric Scotland*, (p. 68, first edition), but from the view there given of it, it appears to have been originally a chamber of ordinary character, the capstone of which had been partially dislodged. Reference is also made to a cromlech in Llandegai parish, near Bangor, which Mr. E. Owen describes as a ruined chamber (*Arch. Camb.*, 1867, p. 42), but which M. Du Noyer claims as one of his primary cromlechs, although it is not apparent, from his words, that he has visited the monument itself. He appears, however, to argue on the assumption that, in ordinary cromlechs, the tables or covering stones are always elevated to a certain height, or, as he himself describes it, "poised in air." The cromlech at Llandegai is a large slab, supported only at one extremity by two small blocks placed as far apart as possible, and therefore close to the outer ends of the inclined slab. (See *Arch. Camb.*, 1867, p. 63, where a representation of it is given.) M. Du Noyer goes on to state "that if this slab was poised in air, like an ordinary cromlech, the loftier supporting stone (? stones) must have fallen, and been most carefully removed ; and even then its altitude from the ground would have been so trifling as to render it quite unlike any structure of this class." (*Journal of Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland*, 1868, i, pp. 44, 45). M. Du Noyer is evidently not aware that several cromlechs exist in Wales, which rest on numerous supporters smaller even than the remaining ones of the Llandegai example. A very perfect one is to be seen on the hill-side between Fishguard and Strumble Head, where a long massive slab rests on two rows of small stones, so low that not even a little boy could in any way insinuate himself

beneath it. Whatever, therefore, may be the case with the Irish examples mentioned by M. Du Noyer, the one at Llandegai can hardly be classed with them, if they are really what M. Du Noyer thinks them to be.

Mr. Blight, who is so well acquainted with stone monuments of this class, thinks he has found one which he is inclined to consider as a primary cromlech; and Colonel Faber Leslie, also a no less accurate observer of Celtic remains, in a letter which is printed at the end of M. Du Noyer's article, fully supports and corroborates that gentleman's views on the subject. Notwithstanding, however, the authority both of the proposer and supporters of this theory of primary cromlechs, it seems to require more extensive inquiry and further consideration before it is likely to be adopted by the majority of antiquarians.

As regards the ordinary position of North Wales cromlechs, no fixed rule can be laid down. The Rev. W. C. Lukis, in his able comparison of Danish and British sepulchral chambers and burial-rites, given in the eighth volume of the *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine*, states his opinion that, as a general rule, cromlechs lie east and west, with variations to the north and south, but that very few indeed are to be found lying due north or south. Worsaae, on the other hand, states that they are placed in all directions, and that nothing like a rule can be laid down. This may apply to Scandinavian monuments of this class; but there is no doubt that Mr. Lukis' suggestion is probably the true one, partly confirmed as it is by the fact that the majority of the long-chambered barrows of Wiltshire take the same direction, according to Mr. Cunnington and Sir R. Colt Hoare.

There are other important facts connected with the whole cromlech group, to which attention has been on more than one occasion directed by the family of Lukis, father and sons. Nearly a quarter of a century ago Mr. Lukis the elder was, we believe, the first to prove that, without a single exception, all cromlechs were

covered up beneath a mound of some kind. He also as clearly proved that the larger and more important chambers were used by successive ages as depositories of the dead, as in the case of the great L'Ancrese chamber, which he found on examination to contain two distinct layers of interment, and the remains of at least one hundred persons of different ages and sex. Hence arose the necessity of galleries or covered ways leading to the chamber, to which easy access was thus secured without endangering the safety of the structure. It is true that in Wales hardly any remains of these passages exist; and it would be strange if they did, considering the mutilated and imperfect condition of the chambers themselves. But the most perfect is that in the tumulus near Maesysarnedd, Capel Garmon, near Llanrwst; an account of the opening of which, with a plan of the chambers, is given in the *Arch. Camb.*, 1856, p. 91. In this case there are three chambers in a row, the centre one of which is entered from a gallery of about fifteen feet in length, and running due north, the chambers themselves lying east and west. Another instance of a gallery exists at Bryncelli in Anglesey, which will be presently alluded to.

In North Wales as well as elsewhere, the eastern side of the chambers is more frequently wanting than the others; a circumstance which may be accounted for by the fact that this side was not always closed by one or more large slabs, but wholly or partially by a wall of dry rubble. Probably, however, especially in the larger and more important chambers to which access would be from time to time required, the more usual practice was to wall up with rubble, which could be easily and safely removed. This was found to be the case with the chamber under Mont St. Michel at Carnac (See *Arch. Camb.*, 1864, p. 47, where the eastern side was so formed. Something of the same kind was found at the chamber in the great mound of Tumiac, but in this case the eastern side, and not merely the entrance was so built up. These two facts in some degree confirm the cor-

rectness of Mr. Lukis' views as to the ordinary position of these chambers, and would also show that the chamber was not complete on this side before the interment took place. As soon as this was effected the entrance was closed, and the chamber, already being partly buried in earth or stone, the completion of the superincumbent mound finished the whole proceeding.

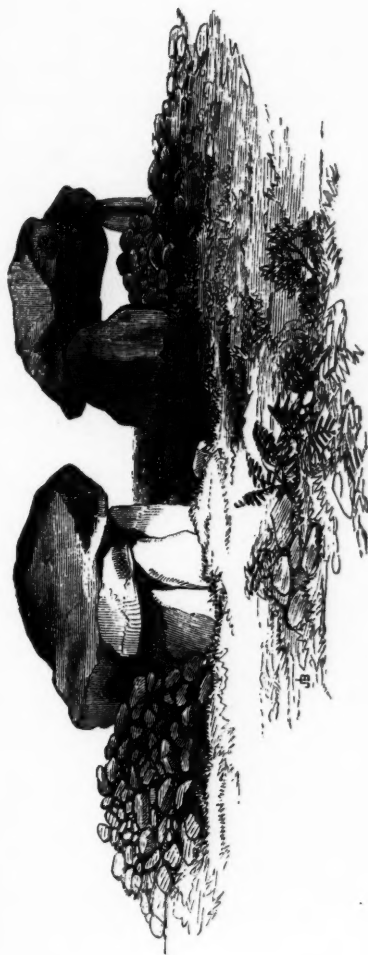
It remains to remark only on the probable age of these remains. Some would assign them to a period anterior to the first comers of the great Celtic race or about 3,000 years before our era. Others again go into the opposite extreme, and place them as late as post-Roman times, a theory first started we believe by the author of *Cyclops Christianus*, but which has been accepted by very few persons indeed. The real truth is, that while these monuments must be considered as the oldest remains we have, and may perhaps extend as far back as some think, yet there is not the smallest evidence that they are anterior to the earliest Celtic period. That they have, however, continued to be erected and used for many centuries is shown by the character of the contents found within. Thus when clay vessels of the rudest character and early types of bone or stone ornaments or implements are the deposit, we may safely, as Mr. Lukis suggests, assign such monuments and their contents to a period anterior to Phœnician communication with these shores, for it is said that metals were not known in this country until introduced by Phœnician commerce. Where coins or gold articles have been found, such finding only tells us that these sepulchral chambers have been used by others than their first builders; and that the deposits have probably been made at a much later period. Thus Mr. Lukis tells us that the two well known gold collars of Plouharnel near Carnac were found in a later cist in the passage leading to the main chamber. Wherever metal articles are found, if their presence cannot be thus accounted for, the chamber itself, from its general character, may be of later character. This is probably

the case in the Gavrynys one, the carved stones of which certainly point to a later time; and as the elaborate work could hardly have been executed without metal tools, there is nothing remarkable in finding in the chamber a bronze socketed celt of rather late character. Mr. Lukis mentions also a silver bracelet found in a chamber called "La Roche qui sonne" in Guernsey, which evidently belongs to a comparatively recent interment in an ancient grave. There are therefore, no means of arriving at any satisfactory conclusion as to when chambered tumuli, or the usual graves of at least private families or distinguished individuals, first came into fashion or when they ceased to be either erected or used. At any rate, other kinds of graves and modes of sepulture must have existed contemporaneously with the more costly chambered tumulus; for it is impossible to suppose that the dead bodies of slaves, beggars, criminals, and the lower classes of society were thus honoured. All, therefore, that can be said, is that the presence of rude pottery and stone implements alone indicates the great antiquity of the grave in which they are found, while the tenacity with which sepulchral rites and customs seem to be retained in all parts of the world makes it not improbable that the chamber tumulus was continued to an age far superior in civilisation to that in which it was first adopted. Even in some parts of the world, as in India, at the present day, the custom of building such graves still remains, and their chambers and superincumbent mounds are but our own cromlechs and tumuli, if we can imagine them such as their builders left them.

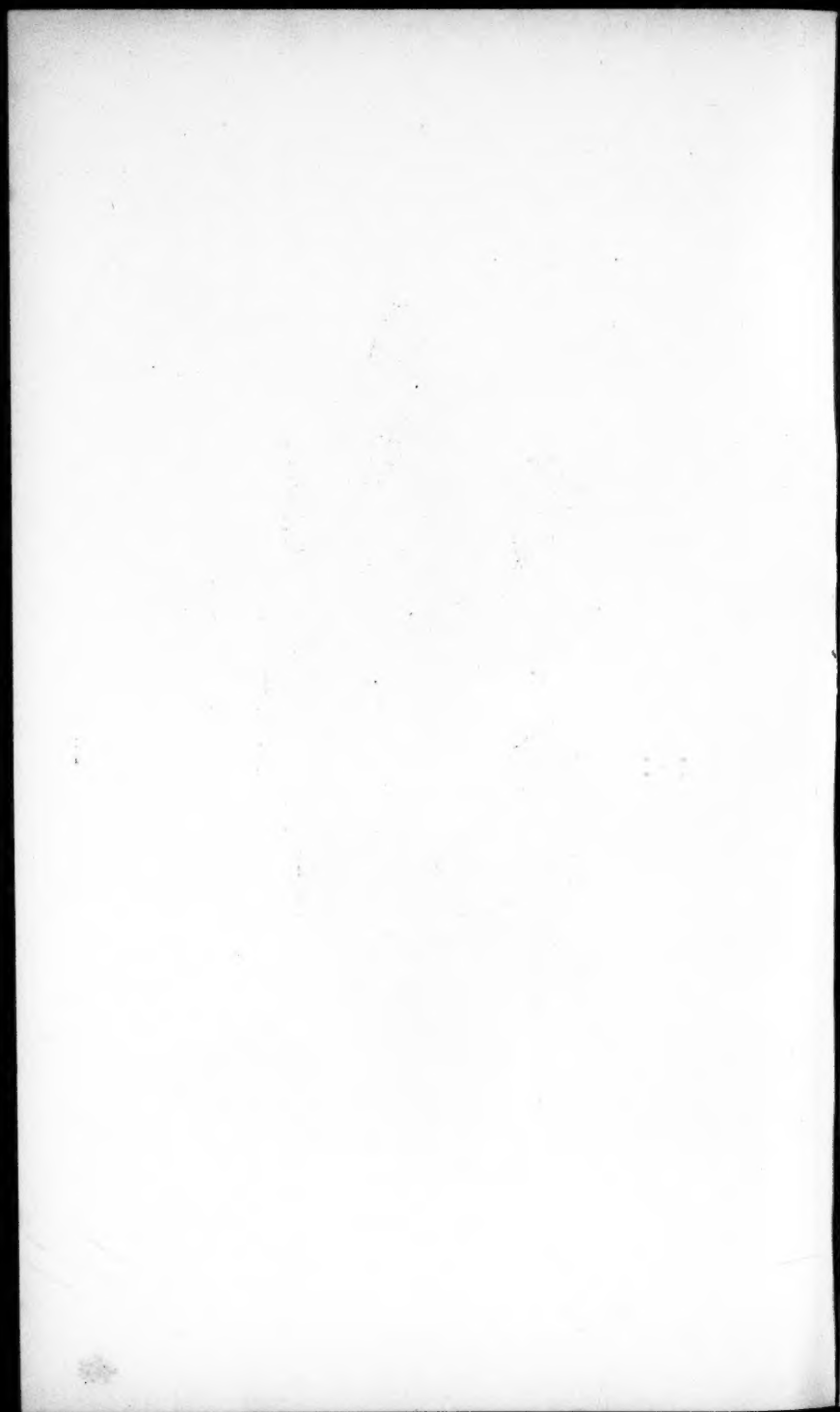
A great many of the cromlechs in Wales have already been noticed, and accurate representations of them given in the Journal of the Association. We now proceed to lay before the members a brief mention of some that have not yet been thus noticed, and we commence with those that stand on the estate of Corsygedol in Merioneth. They are all of them in a state of greater or less ruin; but as far as the care of the present owner of the estate

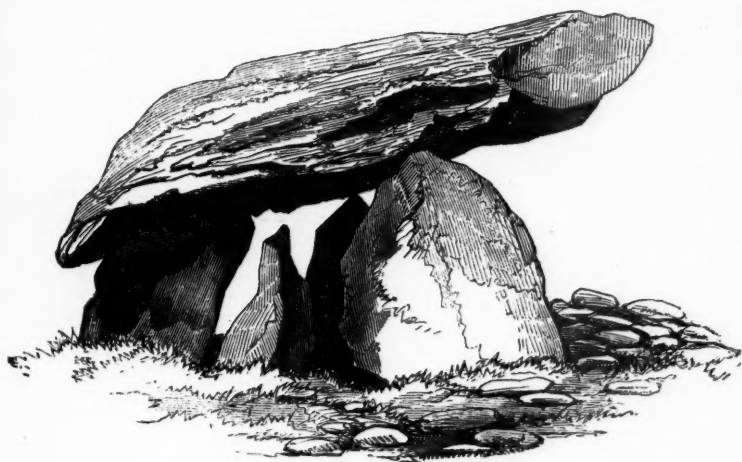
can secure them, they are not likely to be still further mutilated or destroyed. There is, however, one easy and simple precaution which will occur to most. Around these cromlechs is a large collection of stones which once composed the carns. If a low wall was built with these stones round the cromlechs, with a small wicket or steps for an entrance, they would be protected from cattle, and more likely to be respected by visitors and neighbours.

The two chambers, of which cuts 2 and 3 give faithful representations, are on the right of the main road from Barmouth to Harlech, and not very far from the village school. The lower one (No. 2) has its chamber still perfect, a very unusual circumstance. There may, however, have been a second chamber originally, as the side-walls project nearly two feet beyond the slab that closes the chamber; but as there no traces of such an addition, it is more likely that this projection of the sides is accidental, while the enlargement of the extent of the chamber could not have been considered of importance, otherwise the cross-stone might have been easily put further back. The chamber itself, consisting of six stones, is about 7 ft. long, measured exteriorly, and about $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. broad. The diagonals of the covering slab are 8 ft. 7 ins. and 7 ft. 3 ins. The supporters rise on an average about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. above the ground. The entrance seems to be where the side-stones project, and the slab which closes it does not touch the capstone, so that its removal might be effected without danger to the ponderous roof. It faces the east, and is another confirmation of Mr. Lukis' statement. The whole dimensions of the structure are moderate enough; but the preservation of its chamber gives a peculiar value to this example. Around it are thickly strewn the stones which once composed the carn under which it was covered; and as the same thing occurs in the cromlech near it, and as the two monuments are hardly ten yards apart, there can be little doubt but that both of them were originally covered up by one and the same mound



UPPER AND LOWER CROMLECHS, COMS-Y-GEDOL.

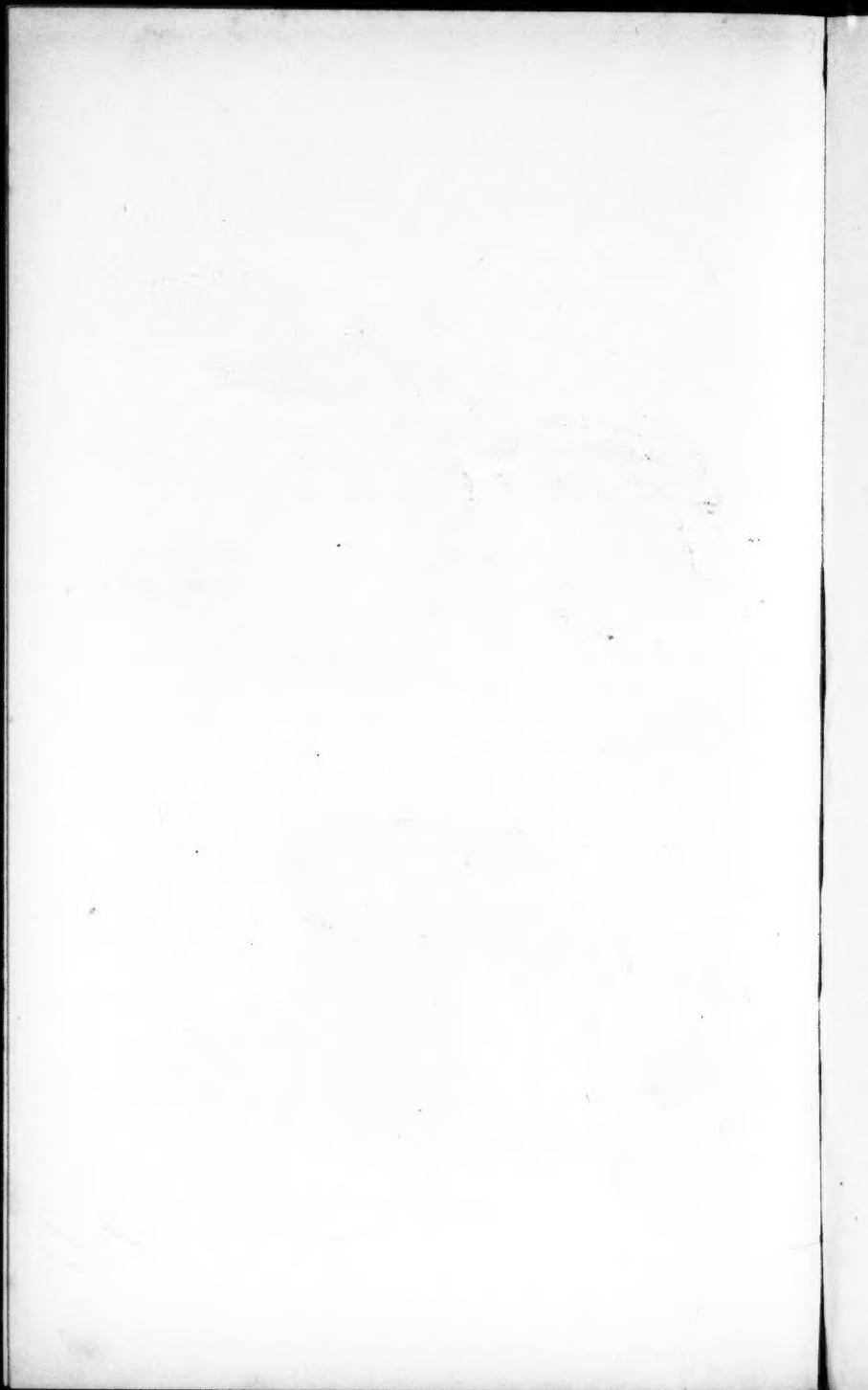




UPPER CROMLECH, CORS-Y-GEDOL.



LOWER CROMLECH, CORS-Y-GEDOL.



of stones, for there would not have been sufficient space to have permitted two carns, if they were to be built of sufficient height and size to cover each cromlech.

The upper cromlech (No. 3) is larger, but not so perfect as No. 1. All the supporters on its south side have vanished. Measured on the outside, the length of the structure is nearly $14\frac{1}{2}$ ft., and its breadth about half the length; thus presenting a contrast to the smaller chamber, which is nearly square. The diagonal measurements of the capstones give 13 ft. 2 ins. and 12 ft.; the maximum breadth being 9 ft., and the average thickness 2 ft. The height of the tallest supporter is $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

The position of the two cromlechs is given in cut No. 4, in which it will be seen that the upper one is represented in a different point of view from the figure in cut 3. On the edge of one of the uprights of the lower cromlech is a series of lines, or rather grooves, which has an exceedingly artificial appearance; and if artificial, the appearance of being as old as the cromlech. But as rocks exist in the locality, marked with the same kind of grooves, it is not improbable but that the grooves under consideration are the effects of natural causes.

Both in the field in which are the cromlechs, and in the adjoining one, are innumerable carns and remains of carns, which extend down the slope nearly to the sea-shore. A reference also to the Ordnance Map of the Vale of Ardudwy, from Barmouth to the Two Traethau, will shew, from the number of cromlechs and fortified posts (and there are many of the latter not given), that the whole district must have been densely inhabited at a very early period. Even after the destruction of such monuments, which has been going on for centuries, the number of those remaining, especially the cromlechs, is remarkable; so that there are, perhaps, few parts of the Principality where they are to be found in equal numbers and importance.

A little above Corsygedol Mansion is a third cromlech (No. 5), of which a representation is here given from

a most accurate drawing by Miss Colville of Corsygedol. Here also are the remains of the cairn which once covered it. The capstone has been dislodged, so as to leave one end resting on the ground; but even when in position, the cromlech must have been somewhat lower than usual, and certainly of moderate dimensions. Little can be made out of the original chamber, except that it stood east and west. A little further on, to the left hand, and partially embedded in a stone wall, are the remains of a similar monument. It should be noticed, moreover, that the ground, to a considerable extent, adjoining these monuments, contains an immense number of circular and rectangular enclosures, which appear to have contained within their walls the inhabitants of a large settlement. A little beyond this collection of dwellings stands also the strong work of Craig y Dinas, which protected the pass in the mountains against enemies from the east; and served as a place of refuge to the inhabitants below, if attacked from the sea-side. It is clear, therefore, that Corsydedol stands almost in the centre of an ancient and numerous settlement; and as there is some doubt as to the origin of the name, one version being that Gedol is the name of a man, he may have been one of the descendants of that settlement who have left behind them such numerous traces of themselves, not merely in their graves but in their dwellings, enclosures, and even their stronghold in case of exigency.

In the parish of Llanfair, on a small farm called Gwern Einion, is another cromlech, of larger proportions than those already mentioned. It is, for a Welsh cromlech, in a tolerably perfect condition, and was lately used as a pigsty. There is a large quantity of stones heaped up around it, which may, perhaps, have been the remains of the cairn; but this is not quite certain, as the place might have been considered convenient to receive the stones when cleared off the land. (Cut No. 6.)

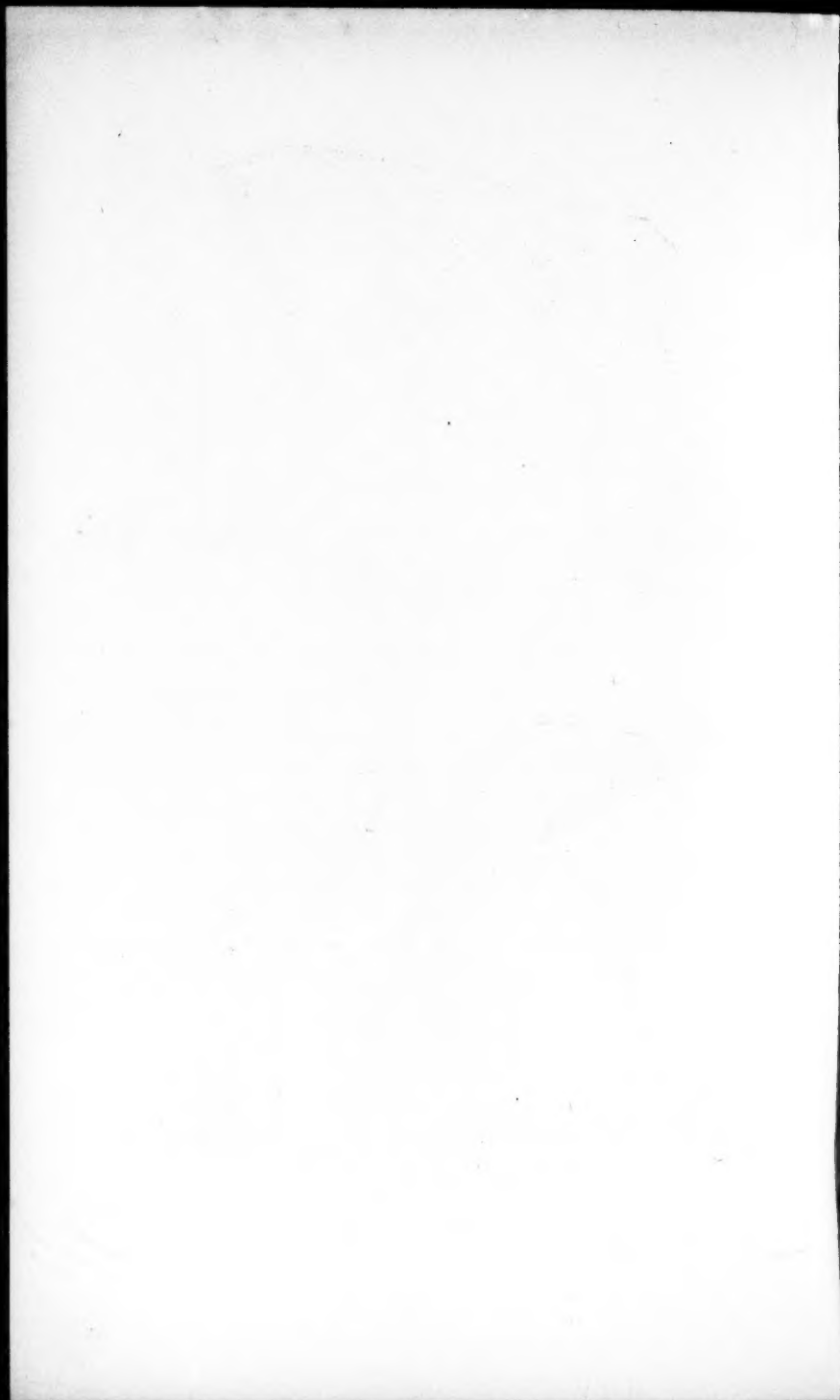
Not far from this spot is a remarkably fine maenhir, built in the middle of a high wall; over which it towers, and presents a conspicuous mark against the setting



COETAN ARTHUR, NEAR CRICCIETH.

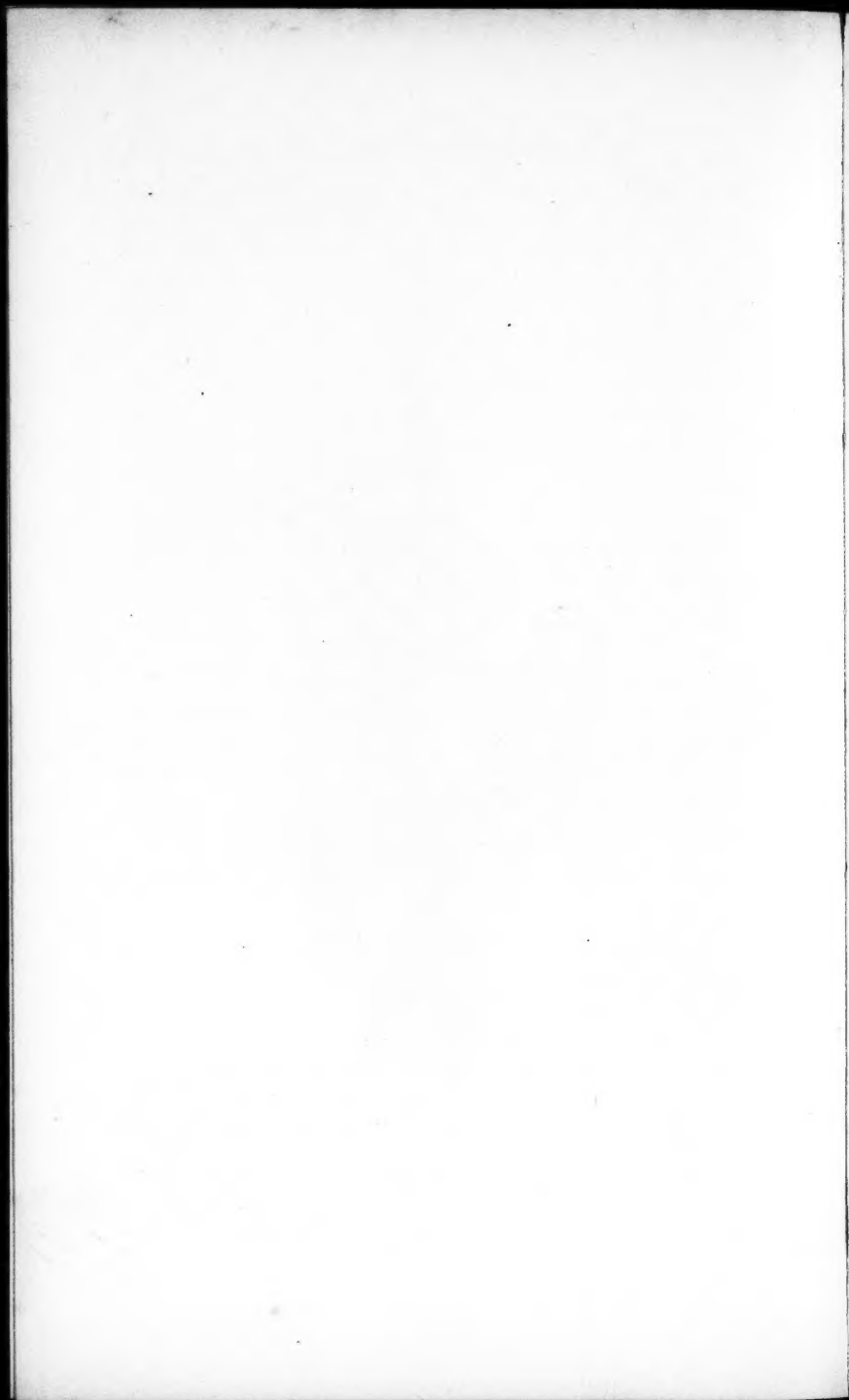


WERNEINION.





CADER ARTHUR, CORB-Y-GEDOL.



sun. This stone, local authorities say, was originally dedicated to the sun; and when it was judged expedient to burn a human victim in honour of that luminary, the unfortunate sufferer was secured by iron chains to the stone. The lower part of the stone is now embedded in the wall, so it is not easy to make out the traces of the fire; which otherwise would, no doubt, be discovered, and believed by the peasants of the district. There is little doubt that many other monuments of the same character have once existed in this district, as here and there fragments of them may be found in the stone walls which divide the enclosures. There is also reason to suppose that most of the stones of which the cairns were formed have found their way to the same destination, for the builders of these walls have ascertained by experience that the stones taken from such early remains, are much more suitable for their purpose than any others they can find. Whether this is exactly the case in this part of Merioneth, was not ascertained by personal inquiry; but such, at least, is the acknowledged fact in the higher lands of Denbighshire.

There are other cromlechs in this part of Merioneth, which, together with the curious remains at Carnedd Hengwm, must be reserved for some future notice.

Not far from Criccieth, near Ystym Cegid, are the last remains of what must have been, in Pennant's time, an interesting group of three cromlechs "joining to each other." If by these words he meant that they actually touched each other, the tumulus that enclosed them must have been of gigantic proportions. Gigantic as it was, it had so completely disappeared in Pennant's time that he does not even appear to have suspected its existence. He merely speaks of the three structures as probably "memorials of three chieftains slain on the spot." Of these cromlechs, however, two have entirely vanished; and the remains of the third are small and insignificant, consisting of what have been four supporters of very moderate dimensions, and the capstone, of a triangular form (cut No. 7); its greatest length

being between fourteen and fifteen feet, and its greatest breadth twelve and a half. Its thickness, however, has not the usual proportion, being unusually thin and slight. It is only very lately that this covering slab was dislodged from its original position by some masons who had taken a fancy to one of the supporters for some building purpose; and it is very probable, unless proper precaution is taken, that what still remains of this triple group will vanish, and not leave even a trace of itself. The removal, however, of two of the three must have taken place some fifty years ago, and not long after Pennant's visit, for Pugh, in his *Cambria Depicta*, in the early part of the present century, drew the monument as he found it, and as is here given from his drawing.

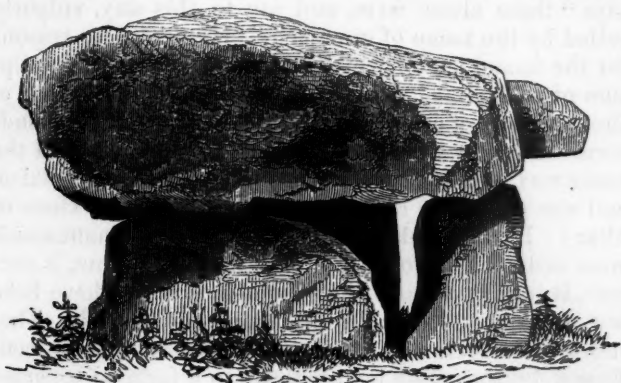


No. 8. Coetan Arthur as about 1810.

(Cut 8.) From this it will be seen that it was tolerably perfect when he saw it, except that, unless the intervals between the uprights had been originally filled up with rubble, some of the uprights must have been wanting. It was, however, at that time used as a cow-house by the farmer, and the vacant spaces were then filled up with walling, but most probably by the farmer himself. The present remains, exclusive of the capstone, are three upright supporters, one lying under the cover, and another in the ditch. The tallest of the upright ones is 5 ft. 6 ins., and the prostrate one, 6 ft. 9 ins. The chamber ori-

ginally was about 10 ft. by 9. A considerable number of small stones are amassed around it; but whether merely collected there to be out of the way, or the remains of the original carn, is uncertain. In the present mutilated state it is not easy to determine what the direction of the chamber was. The entrance, however, could not have been on the south or west side; and although it may have been on the north side, it appears to have been on the usual side, namely the east. It is only known by the peasants as Coetan Arthur; and if questioned, they appear to have never heard of a cromlech or a Druid's altar. Nor is this ignorance confined to this particular district, for it appears to exist in most other parts of Wales.

At no great distance is another cromlech (cut No. 9), of a very different character from the last, in having a



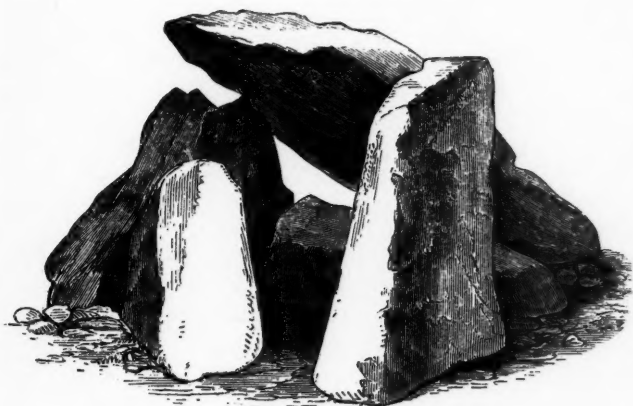
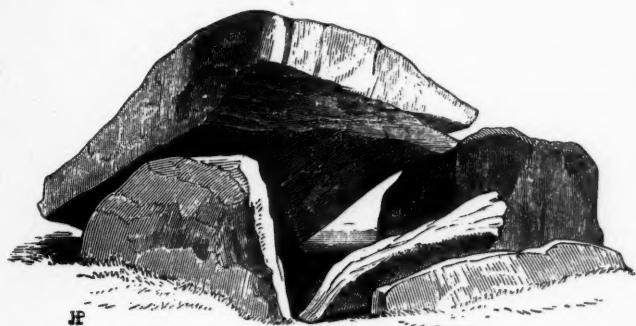
No. 9. Cromlech, Plas Issa.

capstone of unusual thickness, $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, if the other proportions of the stone are taken into consideration. It stands due east and west; the eastern entrance being formed by two uprights, on which the capstone rests, and which, therefore, could not have been removed for any subsequent interment. The opposite end of the capstone is supported by only one upright; but whether this was the original arrangement or not, must be mere

speculation. The structure at present consists only of four stones, without reckoning the cap; namely the three supporters and one long slab which forms the northern side of the chamber, the side given in the cut. The whole of the southern side has been removed. It is situated on a farm called Plas Issa, near Criccieth.

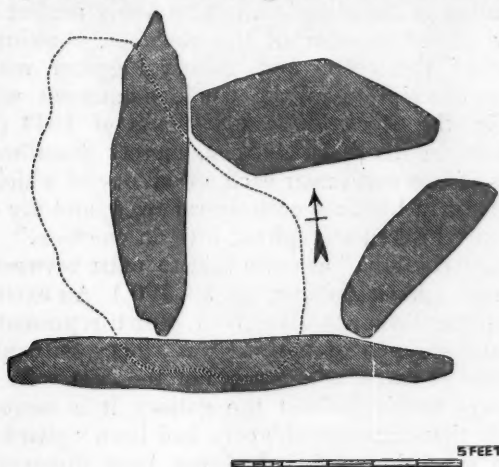
Close to the village of Fourcrosses, near Pwllheli, is a cromlech which is remarkable for giving the name of "Cromlech" to the farm on which it stands. Inquiry has been made of gentlemen who have been for many years acquainted with the locality, and the result is the information that from *time immemorial* the farm has never been called by any other name but its present one of Cromlech. Now, as is well known, there has existed, and still does exist, much doubt concerning the real origin of the name. Rowlands, in his *Mona Antiqua* (p. 47), says "these altars were, and are to this day, vulgarly called by the name of cromlech." He gives two reasons for the name, one of which is that it is a mere description of an inclined stone, *crom* and *llech*; but as some of the capstones of cromlechs are not so inclined, Rowlands seems to prefer the second explanation, namely that the name was, like many other names, imported from Babel, and was originally *cæremlech*, that is, a devoted stone or altar! If Rowlands's statement, that these monuments were ordinarily known as cromlechs in his time, is correct, it is very curious that the name should have been lost, as a general rule, among the common people. That it was, however, a correct statement seems to be confirmed by the name being given to a farm at a period beyond memory. No assistance is likely to be rendered by any old deeds connected with the property, which was once an outlying portion of the Corsygedol estates.

The cromlech itself (cut 10) is remarkable also as shewing indications that the chamber was not entirely composed of the usual slabs, but that portions of the walls had been built up of dry rubble. Allusion has already been made to the entrance of the chamber being frequently thus built, or in some cases entirely of rubble.



CROMLECH ON CROMLECH FARM, NEAR PŴLLHELI.

Dr. Griffith Griffith, during a late visit to Algiers, saw several cromlechs which had considerable remains of this rude masonry still remaining. On referring to the plan (see cut No. 11) it will be seen that the chamber is of unusual form, for the slab which partially closes the eastern side is not parallel to the opposite side. It appears to be in its original place, but still it is not impossible that it has been subsequently shifted to its present situation. But however this may be, it is so low that to complete the eastern enclosure another slab or dry masonry must have been added so as to reach the capstone. The latter has been partially dislodged, and does not now cover the chamber; which, if the eastern stone has been since shifted to its present oblique position, was nearly a square, having its entrance, as usual, on the eastern side. Although this monument is not of



No. 11, Plan of No. 10.

large dimensions, yet it is probable, from the entrance having been partly of rubble, that it has been used as the place of burial on more than one occasion. There are no traces whatsoever left of the tumulus.

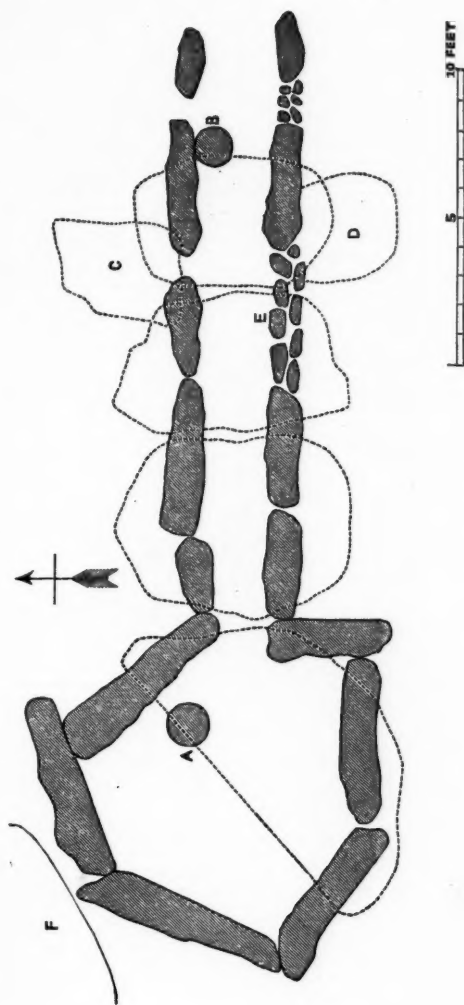
None of the cromlechs that have been briefly men-

tioned seem to have traces of galleries leading to the chamber. This, as is well known, is one of the marked distinctive features of sepulchral chambers in Britany, as contrasted with those of this country. In the former country they are by no means uncommon; in the latter, particularly as regards Wales, they are extremely rare. Allusion has been already made to the gallery connected with the three chambers near Capel Garmon. Through the courteous kindness of Capt. Lukis we are enabled to present a copy of the plan made by that gentleman, accompanied with careful and accurate measurements of details (cut 12), of the chamber of Bryn-celli Ddu, or, as it is called in the Ordnance Map Yr Ogof, or the hole or cave. It still retains some portion of the original carn, but is more remarkable from its having the greater portion of the original gallery leading to the chamber, in a tolerably perfect state. A view of the exterior of the chamber, showing the remains of the cairn and gallery together with an accurate description of the whole monument will be found in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* of 1847 (p. 3) Rowlands, in his *Mona Antiqua*, merely describes the remains of two carns near each other, one of which had been almost in his time entirely removed, and the other had been "broken and pitted into on one side." Two standing "columns" are also said to exist between the two carns. (*Mona Antiqua*, pp. 93, 100.) An extremely rude representation is also given, which represents the carns as composed of nothing but stones, without any admixture of earth, which was not the case. As Rowlands says nothing about the gallery, it is more than probable that although the carn had been "pitted into" on one side, the gallery had not been discovered,—much less the chamber. When Pennant described it, one of the carns had vanished. At least he writes as if only one existed at the time. The upright stones are also passed over without notice, and were also probably no longer in existence. On the other hand, the late Miss Lloyd, in her account of the parish of Llan-

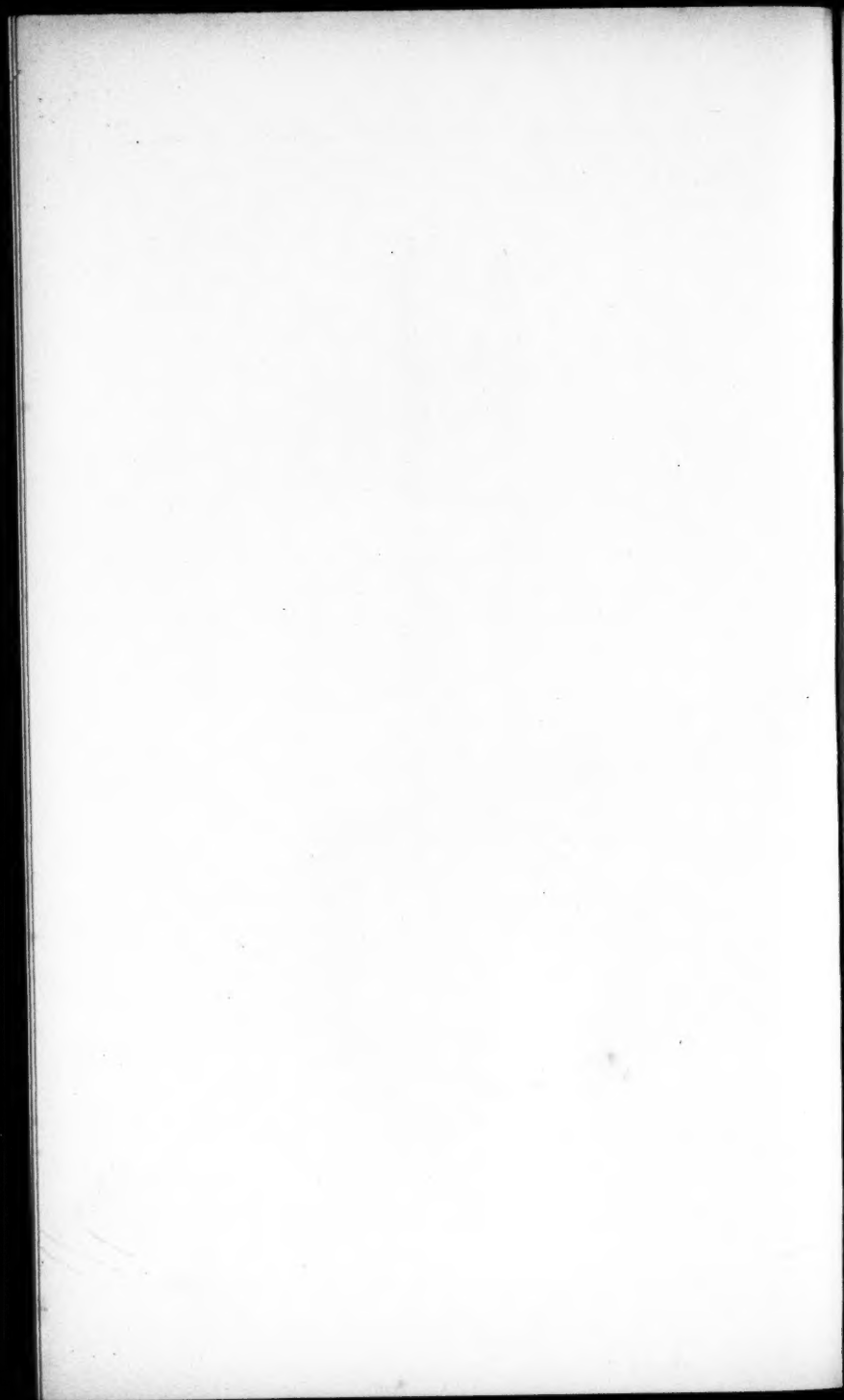


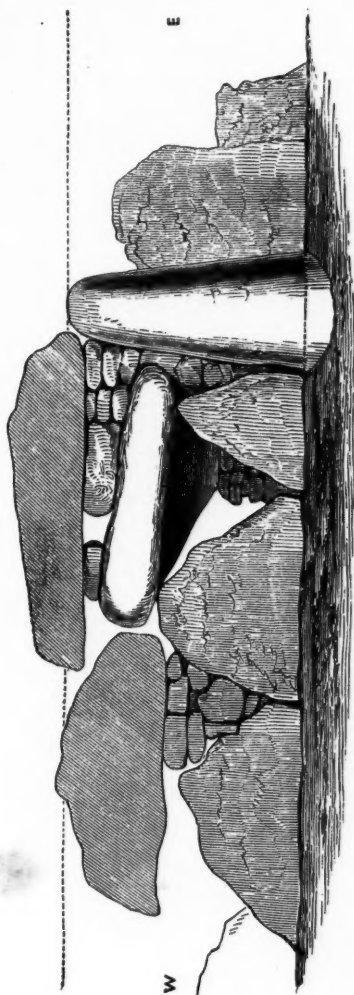
YE O3OF.





PLAN OF YR OGOF.





YE OGOF.



ddeiniol Vab, in which the monument stands (see *History of the Island of Mona*, p. 221), says, "At Bryncelli are some traces of large carneddau, where two upright stones are still standing." But her not mentioning the chamber and gallery, the account of which by Pennant must have been known to her, would tend to show that she merely obtained her information from Rowlands, and had forgotten Pennant's description. Her *History of Mona* was printed in 1832. Pugh, in his *Cambria Depicta*, published in 1816, appears to have visited the chamber, but does little more than repeat what Pennant had previously stated.

The statement, as given by him (vol. ii, p. 272, ed. 1784), is as follows: "A few years ago, beneath a carnedd similar to that at Tregarnedd, was discovered, on a farm called *Bryncelli-ddu*, a passage 3 ft. wide, 4 ft. 2 or 3 ins. high, and about $19\frac{1}{2}$ ft. long, which led into a room about 3 ft. in diameter and 7 ft. in height. The form was an irregular hexagon, and the sides were composed of six rude slabs, one of which measured in its diameter 8 ft. 9 ins. In the middle was an artless pillar of stone, 4 ft. 8 ins. in circumference. This supports the roof, which consists of one great stone near 10 ft. in diameter. Along the sides of the room, if I may be allowed the expression, was a stone bench, on which were found human bones, which fell to dust almost at a touch." Such is the statement; but unfortunately it is not certain that Pennant speaks of having seen what he describes. He did visit Tregarnedd, in Llangefni parish; and his account of the chambered mound, which gave its name to the farm, seems to have led him to mention the somewhat similar chamber at Bryncelli-ddu. He may, however, have seen it on some former occasion; but whether this is the fact or not, it may be assumed with some degree of certainty that he would not have thus minutely described the chamber if he had not assured himself of the correctness of the information which had been given him.

This propping the capstone is very remarkable; but

another example of such supplemental support may be seen in the great cromlech at Plasnewydd, the enormous capstone of which seems to have made it necessary to place an additional supporter at an angle so as to meet the outward thrust. This, however, must have been done before the chamber was covered up by its mound; whereas in the case of the Bryncelli-ddu chamber, there is no reason why the pillar might not have been introduced after the entire completion of the monument, cairn and all. Capt. Lukis states that there is a second pillar-stone at the eastern end of the gallery, which, strange to say, seems not to have been noticed by other observers; not even by the author of the excellent account given in the *Arch. Camb.*, before mentioned; and is certainly not there at present. It is evident that, to whatever use the pillar in the chamber was applied, that in the gallery must also have been put to the same; but what that use was, is doubtful, according to the opinion of Capt. Lukis, who has kindly placed at the service of the Association his notes on the subject:

“I have had another day at the cromlech of Yr Ogof, or “the cave”; and on the right side of the chamber, near the singular stone pillar which is within the area, I found a rude pavement of flat slabs; and immediately beneath it was a thick bed of small beach-pebbles, about 2 ft. in thickness,—at least the side-props seemed buried in it to that depth.

“During the operation I found no pottery; but a few fragments of lead, which I consider as having been thrown there accidentally; and a good deal of charcoal, a broken flint-knife, a javelin-head, and some few bits of human bones.

“I then measured the extraordinary stone-pillar, which was in a slanting direction towards the south, and I found it to be exactly 9 ft. in length, with a circumference in its thickest part (for it tapers upwards) of 14 ft. 10 ins. This leaning pillar bore evidence of its having been disturbed at the base, on the southern side; but I do not conceive that when in its proper upright

position, it could have touched the under surface of the covering stones.

"In reasoning on the singularity of this pillar within the principal chamber, so very unlike the other props of construction around the place, it cannot be considered to be for the purpose assigned to stone-pillars, as supports, which are sometimes found in other cromlechs. In the structure of Déhus, in the island of Guernsey, the rude pillar beneath the second capstone was evidently placed therein to support a flaw or crack which was found to endanger that covering stone. Again, in the cromlech at Carnac, in Brittany, the capstone was found to be too short, and it became necessary to support it by an additional side-prop. Other cases might be adduced where internal supports have been placed; but in all these instances the intention and the reasoning of the cromlech-builders are clear and evident. All these supports are equally rude, unwrought props for a necessary purpose.

"At Yr Ogof we find a pillar with a regular abraded surface, almost polished in some parts, and gradually reduced upwards. The character of this pillar is so different from those on record, that we are forced to assign some other reason for its introduction into the main chamber.

"In the accompanying plan of the structure it will be seen that another abraded pillar stands at the eastern end of the avenue covered way. It is more rude and irregular than that in the chamber; and it stands near a small side-cist, which appears to be an addition to the chief cromlech. The character of these two pillars must be considered as having a design entirely different from those we have discovered in other cromlechs.

"To enter largely into the religions which prevailed over the world in the infancy of man, would lead us to a lengthy chapter far beyond the limits of this Journal; but we cannot avoid being struck by the strong religious feelings which the cromlech-builders possessed in contriving these strongholds for the security of their dead

bodies. I can only say that the pillars at Yr Ogof assimilate greatly with the styles of the Hindoo, although there may be some deeper meaning in placing them within the chamber of the dead."

Then follows a sketch of an altar erected to Siva or Mahades, which was found in a grove not far from Allabahad, on which were placed five stone celts (now in the possession of Capt. Lukis); and as those implements are so frequently found in our own cromlechs and cists, he thinks there may be some connexion of Eastern metaphysical speculations with those which may at one time have prevailed in our country. The altar is rectangular, built up of square stones surmounted by a thin slab, from the centre of which rises a short stilus against which leant the five celts, although only three of them still retained that position at the time of the visit.

Now, although any opinion on cromlech questions emanating from a member of the Lukis family will be received with due consideration and respect, yet serious objections to his views as regards the present case will at once suggest themselves to most minds, as they have probably occurred to him himself. The principal reasons given by Captain Lukis, that these pillar stones were not intended for props, are, that the other arrangements for giving additional support which have come under his cognizance elsewhere are totally dissimilar, that these pillars have been curiously abraded and almost polished, and lastly, that the one in the chamber is too short to have reached the under surface of the capstone. The last of these objections is easily removed; for even supposing that the level of the floor is the original one, yet it would be more easy to fix by means of wedges a prop which is rather shorter than the space between the ceiling and the floor. The same thing is done every day, when it is necessary to give the same kind of support to the beam which supports the upper part of the wall of a house while the lower part is being removed. The props are more

securely and efficaciously applied by means of wooden wedges driven underneath them. It is true that when the lower wall is replaced, the props are removed, but the principle is the same. Stone wedges would have been of course used instead of wooden ones, and even according to Captain Lukis's account there appear to be certain indications at the base as if the stone itself had been curtailed at this end; and it is not improbable this appearance may have been caused by the action of the stone wedges. It is curious that one of the pillar-stones has been worked, and even polished. This polishing might indicate that it is of later date than the chamber itself; and as it is certain, as will be presently seen, that this has been the burial-place of more than one, and may have been in continued use for generations, it may be fairly suggested that, in course of time, the security of the capstone of the chamber being doubtful, the precaution of thus propping it up was taken, long after the first construction of the chamber. But whether these replies to Captain Lukis's objections are considered satisfactory or not, there is still the evidence of Pennant to be set aside, as regards the use and object of the pillar. In addition to all this, it might fairly be asked, is there any instance known of anything like a stylus, found in any of the chambers which have of late years been carefully examined by competent persons, as is the case more particularly in Brittany. Nothing, we believe, of the kind has been ever found or even looked for. It is true that magnificent discoveries of stone implements have been made; but these cannot be considered as in any way connected with any Eastern or other mysticism, being simply the implements and ornaments placed by the body for use in its future state of existence; or, when they are found purposely broken, as is frequently the case, simple tributes of affection and respect, as if such articles were too precious to be ever used again. Independently, therefore, of what Pennant has told us, most will probably consider these stones (if there are two)

as simple pillar-props, and in no way connected with any religious or other superstition.

No traces remain of the stone bench once running round the chamber, on which were said to have been placed bones, which crumbled soon after their discovery. Unfortunately, no record of the opening of the chamber has been preserved, and the account given by Pennant does not intimate whether the bones had been burnt or not.

The gallery which led to the chamber, measured in 1847 about eighteen feet, while in Pennant's time it was nearly twenty feet. As, however, he does not allude to the two side cists or small chambers on each side of the eastern extremity of the gallery (see Plan No. 12) it is likely that he did not examine the structure himself. They may, however, have as easily escaped his notice as they seem to have done that of the writer in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. The fact is, that the traces of them, especially of that on the south side of the gallery, are so faint that they are with difficulty made out by an unpractised eye. By some its very existence is doubted. Some thirty or forty years ago, however, one of the servants at Dinam remembers playing up and down the then tolerably perfect carn with his playfellows, the boldest of whom would occasionally enter the chamber itself. His impression is that these chambers existed as is laid down by Captain Lukis in his plan.

These additional chambers prove beyond doubt, that this carn (and probably the other which once stood beside it) was one of the burial-places of the district for a considerable period. Miss Lloyd mentions, in confirmation of this, that there were numerous remains of cromlechs in the adjoining fields. We have innumerable proofs how constantly the burial-places of the earliest races were called into requisition by succeeding races, so that centuries, in some instances, have intervened between the earliest and latest deposits. Unfortunately, no record has been kept of the remains found of the Brynccelli carns, and but for the accidental preservation

of the ruins of one of them, no evidence at all of secondary interments would have existed.

That such was the practice in Wales, as elsewhere, admits of little doubt, although the general destruction of monuments of this class has left so few means of proving it. Nothing, however, is more natural, and therefore more probable, than that men would make use of convenient receptacles for their dead, which they found ready made for them, rather than (except under especial circumstances) undertake the cost and labour of constructing such mounds and chambers. Although, therefore, there is no actual necessity that proofs of such a practice should be brought forward, as will be found collected in *Ten Years Diggings*, yet the existence of the side chambers at Bryncelli is of some importance as confirming what might have been concluded from *a priori* reasoning.

The accompanying views of the interior and side view (Nos. 13 and 14), are also from the pencil of Captain Lukis, and will convey a most accurate notion of the character of the existing structure to those who have not had an opportunity of examining the original. The whole is surrounded by a wall erected many years ago by the late Mr. C. Evans of Plas Gwyn, but for whose interposition, it is probable, that the whole would have been by this time swept away. As already mentioned, living men remember the present ruin a high mound of earth and stones overgrown with blackthorn, the sloes of which they gathered in their younger days, so that the work of destruction must have gone on with activity, as it is at least a quarter of a century since Mr. Evans came to its rescue and saved it from annihilation.

E. L. BARNWELL.

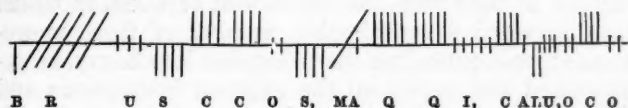
THE OGHAM INSCRIBED STONES OF WALES.

FROM time to time scattered notices of Ogham inscriptions, particularly of those discovered in Wales, have appeared through the volumes of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. These notices have generally been very brief, simply describing some particular monument, but not entering critically into the examination of a class of inscriptions in my opinion by far the most interesting of any hitherto discovered in the British islands. A statement made some years since by the Rev. Dr. Graves, now Lord Bishop of Limerick, at a meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association (published in *Arch. Camb.*, iv, p. 314), hinted that the Ogham character was a trick of the middle ages which would soon be exposed; and a promise, many times repeated, that this exposition would take place, seems to have satisfied many persons as to the age and nature of these inscriptions. As, however, the promised work has not yet appeared, and as many important discoveries have in the interim been made, I have thought it well to again awaken the attention of the Cambrian Archæological Association to a subject, which I believe has a very remarkable bearing on a remote period of the history of Western Britain. The first discovery of an Ogham inscription, or at least the first notice of one, strange to say, was made by the celebrated Edward Lhwyd. That indefatigable philologist, during a tour made in Ireland in the year 1707, mentions a monument seen by him near Dingle, county Kerry, having certain curious scorings on the angle, which appeared to him to have been made with such an appearance of method and design as led him to conclude they were alphabetical characters. His account was published in the *Philosophical Transactions*, v. 27. This monument is now well known as the Trabeg stone, as the copy given by Lhwyd

though incorrect, is quite sufficient to identify it, and is as follows:—



The actual inscription from a careful copy made by myself is as follows:—



This reads BRUSCCOS MAQI CALU OC OC, which I render "Brusccos the son of Calu, alas! alas! The first name in this inscription is a remarkable one, and, strange to say, it is to be seen in an inscription found at Lincoln which gives the name of Nominus Sacer, the son of *Bruscus*, of the tribe of the Sennones in Gaul (Civis Sennonii). The word Oc is an interjection, and signifies alas! Woe is me! My grief! O is equivalent to Oc.

In 1732 McCurtin published his English-Irish Dictionary at Paris, in which he gives a short chapter on the Ogham, and a scale with trifling exceptions similar to that now generally adopted by Ogham scholars; McCurtin, however, does not appear to have been cognizant of the existence of megalithic monuments, bearing Ogham inscriptions. In 1785 Mr. Theophilus O'Flanagan, in a communication made to the Royal Irish Academy, announced the discovery of an Ogham inscription on Callan Mountain in the county of Clare. For several years no further attention was directed to this subject until 1790, when Mr. Pelham, agent to the Marquis of Lansdowne's Kerry estates, rediscovered the Trabeg stone, also monuments at Ballysteenig Lugnappul, three of the inscribed stones at the cairn of Ballintaggart, and five of those on the mound at Ballinrannig on the strand at Smerwick harbour; he was also

the discoverer of those at Aghadoe and Kilmalkedar; an account of all these was published by Mr. Pelham in the sixth volume of *Vallance's Collectanea* in 1804. In the illustrations most of the monuments are incorrectly represented, the inscriptions invariably so. Nevertheless, his labours were of great value in keeping alive the interest of Irish archæologists in this interesting subject. In 1836, the late Mr. John Windele took up the matter with great zeal and perseverance, exploring a large district to the north and north-west of Cork, in which he discovered a considerable number of these monuments; and, extending his researches into Kerry, he re-examined and copied all the existing inscriptions and discovered several others; he was followed in his labours by the late Mr. Richard Hitchcock who made a laborious exploration of the county Kerry, adding a large number of new inscriptions to those already discovered.

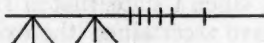
Two valuable papers on the nature and probable age of the Ogham were read before the Royal Irish Academy by the present Lord Bishop of Limerick, then Dr. Graves, on February 14th and May 22nd, 1848. These were really the first attempts made to treat the subject in a philological manner. Though dissenting from his lordship's conclusions, I consider his treatment of the question of the greatest possible value to the Ogham student. Papers on the same subject were also contributed by the late Mr. John Windele to the *Ulster Journal of Archæology*, and the *Proceedings of the Kilkenny Archæological Society*, while several minor contributions have appeared in the above, and other antiquarian publications. On the whole, however, the subject is in a very undecided state, as theories were propounded and insisted on before sufficient discoveries had been made for the necessary purposes of comparison and illustration; these theories must in all probability have to give way before the light thrown on the question by more recent finds. The limits of the present paper, and the scope of my subject will not allow me to go into the arguments which the facts of Ogham discovery suggest

to me in support of my firm belief in the great antiquity of its introduction into these islands, an antiquity reaching in all probability to many centuries before the Christian era. The importance, however, of the subject will be admitted, when I state, that in Ireland up to the present date, I have ascertained the existence of about one hundred and fifty inscribed Ogham monuments. The classification, comparison, and translation of these inscriptions by a competent Gaelic scholar is greatly to be desired, and cannot but throw some light upon the primitive history of the Gael. The existence of these inscriptions out of Ireland, at one period was not dreamed of; some indeed thought it possible, that Scotland, well known to have been colonised by the Gael at a remote period, might have produced some examples; but the idea of a number of them being found in any part of England was not entertained. The discovery, however, of Ogham inscriptions in Wales, and one in Devonshire, does not now appear strange to us in the light which early Welsh and Irish history has thrown on the remote connections existing between the two countries. It is therefore a matter of some interest and importance to examine critically these Welsh monuments, comparing the nature of the inscriptions found on them, with those found in Ireland in order to ascertain if any definite conclusions can be arrived at as to how the character found its way into Wales.

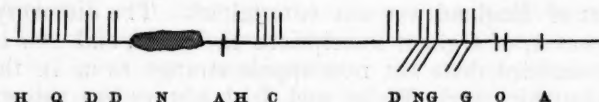
THE KENFEGGE STONE.

The first of these inscriptions noticed as Ogham was that on the pillar-stone near Kenfegge, in Glamorganshire, discovered by Mr. J. O. Westwood, and a drawing and description of which was supplied by that gentleman to the *Arch. Camb.*, i, p. 182. This monument was well known before Mr. Westwood's paper. It is an undressed monolith, standing on the side of the road between Kenfegge and Margam, about 4 ft. 6 ins. in height above ground; having on one face the following

inscription, in capitals, PUNPEIUS CARANTORIUS; and on the two angles of the same face several Ogham characters. Those on the left angle are as follow:



They are situated at the top of the stone, where there is a considerable fracture, or flake off the angle; consequently the inscription is imperfect. The diagonal direction of some of the scores of the two first characters have been remarked on; but there is nothing peculiar in it, beyond some freak or inadvertence in the engraving, as I have seen them similarly marked on other monuments. The second inscription on the right angle is as follows:



From the long spaces between several of the characters it is quite evident that this inscription is imperfect; that several of the letters have been obliterated, principally vowels, which being usually small circular or oval dots on the angle, are generally the first to be defaced either by violence or weather. From the skeleton of the Ogham which remains, it is, however, quite evident that this is not a bilingual inscription, as any filling up of the missing letters could not produce the equivalent of the Roman inscription. It is also worthy of remark in this, as in all similar cases, that the inscriptions are always reverse,—the Roman reading from top to bottom, the Ogham from bottom to top. It is therefore evident that they are by different hands, and at different dates. To my mind the evidence of this worn and mutilated Ogham pillar-stone is, that it was appropriated as the monument of a Romanised Briton, after having long performed a similar office for some invading Gaedhal. Camden notices the Roman inscription; but his copy, which he states was supplied by the Bishop of Landaff,

is incorrect. For the above copies of the Ogham inscriptions I am indebted to Mr. Longueville Jones, as the artistic sketch of Mr. Westwood necessarily omitted some of the scores.

TURPILLIAN STONE.

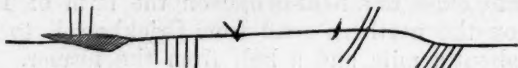
This stone, as described in Jones' *Brecknockshire*, lies prostrate, close to a field-hedge on the farm of Ty yn wlad, on the northern road from Crickhowell to Lanbedr, about a mile and a half from the former. The first notice of this monument will be found in Gough's *Camden* (vol. ii, p. 476, with a plate at 473). The plate is incorrect as regards the Ogham scores, which are marked, but of which no notice is taken in the text. In a paper by Mr. Strange, entitled a "Further Account of Antiquities in or near Brecknock, contributed to the *Archæologia* (iv, p. 19), he mentions this stone, which he states he visited, and found it lying neglected in a ploughed field. He describes it as "about 6 feet long and 2 feet broad." He gives also an engraving of this stone, which is a facsimile of that in *Camden*, shewing the same errors in the Ogham; of which, strange to say, he also took no notice. Jones describes it as being "9 ft. long by $1\frac{3}{4}$ ft. broad, and 6 ins. thick." He also gives a plate, and is equally incorrect in his representation of the monument. In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for June 1786 (plate 1, fig. 7, p. 473) is a notice of this stone, with also an incorrect engraving. I should remark that Jones notices the scores on the angles, but ridicules the idea of their being alphabetical characters.

To Mr. J. O. Westwood we are indebted for an accurate engraving of this stone, and for a carefully drawn up paper published in the second volume of the *Arch. Camb.*, p. 25. Owing, however, to the position in which the stone is represented, the Ogham scores on one side of the angle are not shewn. This prostrate monolith is rough and undressed, having on its face an inscription, in Roman capitals, as follows:

TYRPILLI IC IACIT

PVVERI TRILVNI DVNOCATI.

These letters, Mr. Westwood states, are quite legible. On an angle of the stone, of the same face as that occupied by the Roman, are the remnants of an Ogham inscription, the principal part of which is obliterated. It originally occupied two-thirds in length of the angle, commencing at about one-third from the original base, and occupying the remaining space to the top, as follows:



The intermediate spaces were certainly filled up by letters, all the angle being worn or damaged. There was originally a piece out of the top of the stone, and the Ogham followed the retreating angle; but on this angle is also a fracture, and the letters on it have suffered accordingly. Mr. Westwood, when writing his paper, was rather doubtful whether the characters on this angle were identical with the Irish Oghams; he writes:—"With respect to the Ogham-like marks on this stone, it will be observed, that we have here another element in the x-like mark below the D; whilst it will not fail to be noticed, that the simple oblique strokes occur in groups of twos and fives, just as in the Kenfegge stone and the Irish Ogham stones; so that I should think after what has been adduced no one will now be inclined to follow Jones in his jeering remarks against the Ogham characters of these markings."

There can, however, not be the smallest doubt that the remaining characters are portions of a long and important Ogham inscription, identical with the Gaedhelic, and not having the remotest resemblance to the "Alphabet of the Bards." The small and x-like mark which is given in the book of Ballymote as the diphthong æ; and which alone of the five diphthongs described in that MS. is found on stone monuments, completes the identification of this inscription as Gaedhelic.

From the mutilated state of the angle letters we have



H_g. del.

ST. DOGMAEL'S, PEMBROKESHIRE.



no opportunity of determining whether this can lay claim to being a bilingual inscription; but, as in the case of the Kenfegge stone, the Roman inscription reads from the top downwards, the Ogham from the bottom upwards, leaving, as is the case in all Irish examples, a space at the foot of the monuments to be fixed in the ground.

ST. DOGMAEL'S.

The inscribed stone at the Abbey of St. Dogmael's, near Cardigan, was known to Edward Lhwyd, as a sketch of it by that antiquary was seen at Oxford in 1859, by Mr. Longueville Jones, who states that he (Lhwyd) "had also remarked some of the notches on its edge, and had recorded a few in his drawing, but had not said anything about them in any of his notes." (*Archæologia Cambrensis*, vi, third series, p. 128). Its introduction to the notice of the learned as an Ogham monument is, however, due to the gentleman above named in a communication to the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, third series, vi, p. 128. Mr. Longueville Jones thus describes the monument.

"Within the precincts of the abbey of St. Dogmael's, near Cardigan, is preserved a long narrow slab of porphyritic greenstone, such as is found on the ridge of the Preseleu hills, semi-columnar in form, and rhomboidal in section. It is about 7 feet in length, tapering upwards from rather more than 12 to 9 inches in breadth, with an average thickness of about seven inches. The surfaces are all smooth without any lichen adhering to them, and did not, like other stones of this kind from the same hills, offer the same appearance. It might be supposed to have been once artificially polished. Such, however, is not the case. This peculiar kind of igneous rock does not decompose readily; its greenish base, and the dull white squarish crystals with which it is filled resisting the effects of the weather and of vegetation with remarkable pertinacity. The stone in question

is probably in as sound condition with certain exceptions as when it was first brought down from its native hills.

“Stones of this kind are prized all over Pembrokeshire from the circumstances of their peculiar form and hardness making them useful as gate posts; every farmer is glad to get them from Preseleu, and the very stone of which we are now treating, shows by two holes drilled into its surface, that it has been made to do this piece of agricultural duty in worse times, archæologically speaking, than the present.

“Not only as a gate post, however, but also as a bridge has it been made serviceable to the daily wants of generations now dead and gone; for it was so used over a brook not far from its present locality, and had acquired a sort of preternatural reputation from the belief of the neighbourhood that a white lady glided over it constantly at the witching hour of midnight. It was fortunate, perhaps, that this should have been the case; for the superstitious feeling of the neighbours not only tended to preserve it from injury—no man nor woman touched it willingly after dark; but this very tradition, added to its peculiar form, probably led to its ultimate rescue.

“A gentleman who was lately the owner of the property on which St. Dogmael’s Abbey stands, the Rev. H. J. Vincent, vicar of that parish, found the stone covered with a thick coat of whitewash in a wall adjoining his house, where it was perhaps placed after its removal from the brook. When the wall was taken down with the view of effecting some improvements, the stone fell and was unfortunately broken in two; it was then carefully conveyed to the spot where it now rests. Before it fell its inscribed face and edge were uninjured. Luckily, they had been turned downwards by whoever placed it in ignorance of its value across the brook.”

This pillar stone exhibits on one of its broader faces an inscription in fine Roman characters of a pure and early type, as follows:—

SAGRANI FILI CVNOTAMI.

In reference to this inscription Mr. J. O. Westwood writes as follows :—

“The Latin portion of the SAGRANUS inscription offers but few peculiarities. It is entirely composed of Roman letters of a rather narrow form, varying in height, some on the upper line being nearly six inches high; those forming the word FILI, in their much narrower form, in the bars of the F appearing on the left side of the upright stroke, in the upper bar being rather oblique with the end elevated, and in the upper stroke of the L elevated a little above the adjoining letters, approach the *rustic* form. The first letter S is ill-formed, with the lower half larger than the upper, agreeing in this respect with the initial S in the Paulinus inscription, published in this Journal, ii, third series, p. 249. The third letter, G, formed of a semi-circle, with a short oblique tail, scarcely extending below the line; and the M in the second line, with the first and last strokes splaying outwards, are the only ones which offer any peculiarity, and in these respects they agree with many of the oldest Roman monuments.

“Hence were we not guided by the formula, the comparative rudeness of the letters, and the fact of the inscription being carved lengthwise along the stone, we might refer this inscription to the Roman period, so complete is the absence of those minuscule forms of letters which occur in most of the Welsh inscriptions, and of which an instance may be seen in the EULIENUS stone, ante, p. 56, and which indicate a later period, when as in most of the Glamorganshire stones, scarcely any of the letters retained the capital Roman form. Under these circumstances I think we are warranted in assigning a date to the present inscription not long after the departure of the Romans, whilst the writings still remained unmodified by a communion with the Irish or Anglo-Saxon scribes.” (*Archæologia Cambrensis*, third series, vol. vi, pp. 128, 136)

The Ogham inscription occupies, as usual, the left angle on the same face as the Roman, commencing about

14 inches from the bottom and thicker end, occupying the entire angle to within three or four inches of the top. The characters are boldly and regularly defined, the vowels being marked by rounded dots as in the majority of Irish examples. They are very legible in the cut given herewith.

The custom of supposing that our inscribed stones exhibit the names of historic personages, has led to a large amount of useless criticism and investigation. This will appear manifest if we consider that in remote ages a pillar stone was the common memorial of deceased humanity, and that such may have existed by thousands over the face of the country; that a proper name was not confined to an individual, but ran through a tribe, or family, there being perhaps hundreds of the same name, or perhaps thousands in the course of a few centuries—just as the Browns, Jones, and Smiths form a large portion of the present population of our isle. I make these remarks in reference to the present inscription, as it has been stated that the name “Cunotami” is the Latin equivalent of Cunedda, a Welsh king who flourished in the fourth century. Now the fact of Cunotami being the Latinized equivalent of Cuneddaff, or Cunedda, is open to dispute, names ending in *i*, or *ni*, are common to the Gaedhal, as I could easily shew; the prefix “Cu” is common to many names found connected with early Irish and British history; so that if we remove this prefix “Cu” or “Cun,” what remains of both names have no similarity whatever, “otami,” edda,” or “eddaf.”

Professor Rees gives the names of the sons of Cunedda who got patrimonies in Wales, but among them there is no “Sagrani,” or “Sagramni.”

The Ogham inscription is in good order and in pure Gaedhelic, and reads, SAGRAM NI MAQI CUNATAMI, *i.e.*, “Sagram, a warrior the son of Cu-natami.”

We have here after the proper name “Sagram,” the word “Ni,” or “Nia,” which according to O'Reilly and O'Brien's dictionaries signifies a *champion*, a *hero*, a

mighty man; we have also the formula, "maqi," the genitive case of "Mac," a son, so commonly found on Irish Ogham monuments. Cunatami is a type of a class of names found in Gaedhelic inscriptions, and also in Irish history. Thus in the Glounagloch stone we have Cunagus, while such names as Cudulig, Cuchullin, Cucongelt, Cusinna, Cubretan, Cucenmathair, will be found plentifully scattered through our early annals. This prefix "Cu" which signifies *a hound* was a very common one to early Gaedhelic names.

Now it is quite evident that, if these inscriptions were executed at the same time, and by the same hand, as a bilingual one, they would be identical, letter for letter; whereas the "Sagramni" of the Celtic is "Sagrani" in the Roman, and "Cunatami" of the one is "Cunotami" of the other.

Again, both inscriptions would follow the same direction; whereas, the Celtic reads from bottom to top, the Roman from top to bottom.

We are thus reduced to the dilemma as to which was the original inscription.

An inspection of the stone itself gives us no assistance on that point; both are of such a great age, that differences in the engraving could not be depended on as of any value in the argument. The probabilities are in my opinion in favour of the superior antiquity of the Ogham. The story of the stone looks like this; that it was erected as a memorial over some well-known chief of the invading Gaedhal, who for a long period occupied South Wales, and that at some period after, when the language of the Gaedhal, and the use of the Ogham were dying out, some patriotic descendant of the hero, to perpetuate the memorial, re-cut the inscription in the Roman characters then in use; the monument is of great antiquity, the Roman inscription alone on the authority of Mr. Westwood being referable to a date "not long after the departure of the Romans."

LLANFECHAN STONE.

This is a kindred monument to the last described, being one of the very few existing in dressed stones. According to Sir Samuel Meyrick, who describes it in his "Cardiganshire," it is 9 feet 3 inches in height above ground, and 1 foot 8 inches in breadth, it bears a bilingual inscription in Ogham and Roman characters, in a remarkable state of preservation, owing no doubt to the fact stated by Sir Samuel that it was found in the eastern wall of the ruins of a building (Capel Whyll) a few feet below the surface of the earth. The chapel was a building of great antiquity; and the stone being looked upon no doubt as a pagan monument, it was used up in its foundation. The author of "Cardiganshire," though minutely describing this stone, takes no notice of the Ogham; indeed, I am not aware of their having been noticed by any antiquary until the appearance of Mr. Longueville Jones's engraving and paper in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, third series, vol. vii, p. 42.

The Roman inscription is as follows:—

TRENACATUS IC JACET FILIUS MAGLAGNI.

Of the Roman inscription Mr. Longueville Jones writes:

"The letters indicate a very early period; the same, in fact, whatever that period may really be, as that of the Sagramnus stone so well known to our members. The absence of the *h* in the second line; the uncertainty or the mistake, in the cutting of the *t* and the *r*; the peculiar forms of the *g*—are all points of interest, and may help to the determining of its palæographical date. It will be observed, too, that the letters do not touch each other, nor inosculate, as is so often the case in inscriptions of the kind. The letters were correctly read by Sir Samuel Meyrick; and there is no obscurity about them. The name in the third line would seem to show an Erse connexion, as in other instances in Wales; and another peculiarity of the inscription is that the terminations of the nominative cases are here preserved.

The words end in *vs* not in *i*. On the whole, the inscription testifies to knowledge and care." (*Ibid.*, pp. 44, 45.)

The Ogham inscription is as usual on the left angle of the stone, same face as the Roman, and occupies the upper part running across the head, it consists but of one, the first name of the Roman one with some variation.

TRENACCATLO.

The appearance of a single name on this stone without the usual patronymic is quite consistent with the custom of the Gaedhal, as many such examples exist in Ireland.

Thus on a monument at Ardovenagh in Kerry we have a simple name "Coftet," on one at Been, county Cork, "Monges," on one in the collection of Mr. Windele, "Acati," on the great stone at Bealambire, county Cork, "Artagni," on one at Ardmore "Amadv." For the superior antiquity of the Ogham in this instance the same arguments will apply as in the former case, particularly as regards the principal name, which is strangely altered in the Roman one. Here again it is evident, that some descendant or admirers of the Gaedhelic chief or warrior, not satisfied with the simple name inscribed in Ogham, cut the more lengthened, and elaborate inscription in the Roman letters and language.

Mr. Longueville Jones seems to think that the double *c* indicates the accent on the penultimate, "therefore testifying to the Cymric origin of the name itself." The Gaedhelic Oghamists delighted in double letters, thus on a stone, Barachaurin, county Cork, we have the name "Carrttacc," one over from Kilboultragh, in the possession of Col. A. L. Fox, "Muddossa," on one at Kilbonane, Kerry, "Gonnggu."

TRALLONG, BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

This interesting monument was found on the taking down of the ancient church of Trallong near Brecon; it formed one of the internal jamb-stones of a window;

fortunately the inscription was turned inside towards the body of the wall, which accounts for the fine state of preservation in which we now find it. I would here remark, that it is owing to the use of these monuments as building materials, in the construction of Rath caves and ancient churches, that we owe the preservation of so great number of these inscriptions in Ireland.

To Mr. Longueville Jones we are again indebted for our knowledge of this monument, which he has beautifully illustrated in *Archæologia Cambrensis* (vol. viii, third series p. 52) he describes it as being six feet long, 1 foot 6 inches wide at the upper end, tapering down to a point at the lower, uniformly about six inches in thickness, &c. Mr. L. Jones here errs in making the broad end of the stone the top, whereas it was manifestly the bottom when used as an Ogham monument; but was certainly made the head when it was turned into a Christian monument by the engraving of the cross on it. The stone tells its own tale as plainly as possible, and it is this; the stone was selected, and inscribed with a Gaedhelic inscription, as usual on an angle, and leaving a space at one end to secure it in the ground; this space was left at the broad end, and there the inscription commenced at about 16 inches from the extremity, continuing nearly to the top; subsequently as in the former instance, a Roman inscription embodying a portion of the Gaedhelic one, was inscribed on the stone as it stood, from the top, downwards, as we find the custom in all such examples.

Subsequently to this we have the Christianizers, who take up the stone all together, carve the cross upon the broad end that was in the earth, the only space where one could be carved, and disregarding the inscription bury the whilome top in the ground, in order that the end bearing the cross should of course be uppermost.

The builders of the primitive church of Trallong do not appear to have had any reverence for this semi-pagan monument; for they built it into the wall of their new edifice. In this case we have repeated what has

occurred in several similar instances to Ogham memorials in Ireland.

The inscription on this monument is an interesting one. It contains, as in many other instances, the name of the deceased without his patronymic; but bearing



certain words suitable to such a monument. This I propose to read as follows:

"CU NACEN NI FI ILL FETO," *i.e.*, "Cu Nacen, a warrior pierced (by) many wounds (lies) beneath in silence." Names with the prefix "Cu," I have already alluded to as being of a very common Gaedhelic type. "Nacen" is equally so, being a form of the well known Nechtan, Neachtain, Nochtain. "Ni," as I have before shown, signifies a *hero, soldier*, &c. "Fi," signifies *piercing, wounding*, &c. (O'Reilly's *Irish Dictionary*.) "Il, a particle in composition meaning *great, much, many*" (*ibid.*); "Fe, prep. *under*" (*ibid.*); "Fo, a. *dumb—mute*." (*ibid.*)

We have here a rendering of the inscription consonant with what we might expect over the grave of a fallen soldier, in accordance with our knowledge of the Gaedhelic language, and without violence to the original, neither adding to, taking from, or altering a single letter. The connecting words in circumflexes are always understood on these monuments, as well as upon the archaic ones of Greece and other countries. The Roman inscription is well and clearly cut; Mr. L. Jones says, "The inscription is thoroughly legible, and runs as follows:—

CVNOCENNI FILIVS

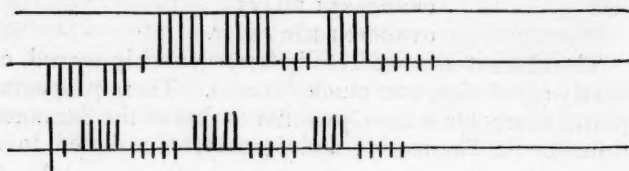
CVNOCENI HIC JACIT.

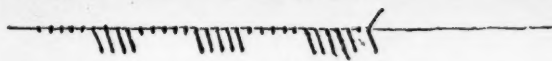
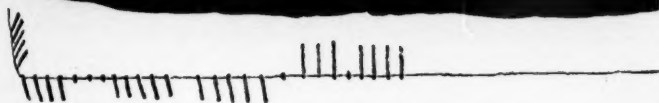
The characters are carefully formed, evenly spaced, of nearly equal size, not much debased. Their palæographical character is closely similar to that of the Sagranus stone at St. Dogmaels; and it may be assigned to a

period between the fifth and seventh centuries. One peculiarity immediately strikes the antiquary; we have here the word *FILIVS* in the nominative case, put in apposition with the word *CVNOCENNI*, apparently in the genitive, and immediately followed by the same word in the same case. Either, therefore, some false and debased Latinity is to be found here, as patently as in the last word of the inscription, *IACIT*: or else we have here a proof that the first word, though ending in *i*, is in reality a nominative case—the name of a person in its original orthoepy, and indeclinable; and if so, then this stone solves difficulties which have so often been met with in similar inscriptions now familiar to members." The difficulty alluded to by Mr. L. Jones arises from the fact of the inscriber of the Roman legend having taken the proper name *Cunacen*, and the word *NI*, as one word; and as a proper name *Cunacenni* he appears to have indifferently understood the Ogham, and to have been but a poor Latin scholar.

FARDELL STONE, NOW IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Though not in the principality, the character of this monument is so identified with those of Wales, that I feel under the necessity of introducing it in this paper. The stone is carefully described and illustrated in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. viii, third series, p. 134. I shall, therefore, only refer to the inscriptions, which are again in two characters, Ogham, and Roman. The Oghams are inscribed on the two front angles of the monument, and are easily legible from the cut given herewith, that on the left is as follows,—*s faqquci*; on the right, *maqi qi ci*:





FARDELL STONE, NOW IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

M. L. J. 1881



The Ogham, as usual, is written from bottom to top, leaving at the base a considerable space for fixing in the earth. In a drawing published in the *Trans. of the R. I. of Cornwall*, and to be found in the Appendix, eighth vol. *Arch. Camb.*, 3rd Series, a character, A, is introduced between the letters s and r of the left hand line; but this, I am disposed to think, does not exist, as Mr. Longueville Jones, who examined this stone in the British Museum, does not give it in his drawing in *Arch. Camb.*; an engraving forwarded to me by the late Mr. Pettigrew does not shew it; neither is it given in a drawing made expressly for myself by Mr. Atkinson of the Department of Science and Art, and an accurate transcriber of Oghams. I am, therefore, bound to believe it does not exist. I read the inscription, "San(lic) Faqquci maqi Qici," i. e., sacred (stone of) Faccuci, the son of Cuici. We have, first, the letter S, which I have found in a similar position on other monuments, and which is thought to be the initial of the formula, "San lic," i. e., *sacred stone*. This is, of course, conjectural, but not improbable. It is as likely that the Ogham inscribers would use the initial of a formula well known, where brevity was essential, as that the Romans would make use of the well-known initials, D.M., V.A., D.O.M., etc.

We have, then, on the right angle the inscription taken up with the well-known word "Maqi" in its most usual form, and the patronymic "Qici" or "Cuici." The names are singular, the termination of the first name being taken from the patronymic, as I have seen in other cases. Both of these names are of an unmistakably Gaedhelic type, as we find by reference to the index of the *Annals of the Four Masters*, where we find such names as Cucaich, Cucaille, Ceuciche; and as for the prefix "Fac," which with the patronymic forms the name of the person commemorated, it is also quite a common one, commencing with Fachtna Fathach, son of Ross, a son of Rugharaidhe, monarch of Ireland A.M. 5042-5047. (*Ann. Four Masters*). We have it also in such names as Fiachu, Fiachna, Fiachragh.

Now as to the Roman inscription, which, as usual, is inscribed in a contrary direction to the Ogham, it runs in two lines, on the front face, FANONI MAQVIRINI. Strange to say, it sets forth two Gaedhelic names and the Oghamic formula, "Maqi." The names are critically distinct from the Ogham, having no resemblance whatsoever except in the letter F of the first name. On the back of the stone we have another, in Roman characters, SASRAMNI. The inscription on the front face was certainly inscribed by a Gaedhal, and to the memory of a Gaedhal. FANON is the same type of name as Faelan, Faifne, Faelchu, Fallomhan. RINI is the same as Rian, Ruan, so frequent in Gaedhelic names; and is found on an Ogham monument at Kinard, co. Kerry, in the form of Riani.

We are offered two solutions for the difficulties of this monument: first, that the Roman was an attempt to render the Ogham into Roman characters, though in an Irish form; secondly, that the names are entirely distinct, and that this stone has done duty as a monumental one for different persons at different periods. I have no hesitation in adopting the latter as the true solution of the difficulty. It is far more probable that the Gaedhal, who occupied a large portion of the west coast of Britain at some remote period, brought with them this simple and archaic form of letters; and that they subsequently disused them for the Roman characters, which during the occupation of that people became so prevalent in the country; than that they should first have adopted the letters of a literate and highly civilised people, and then ultimately have fallen back upon this primitive character. Mr. L. Jones considers, and I think with good reason, that the double line inscription on the face is older than the single line on the back. He writes: "The palæographic character of one side of the stone is not the same as that of the other. The two-lined inscription is older than the other. The one may be carried back to the Romano-British times, the other may very well be of the seventh century." (*Ibid.* p. 139.)

Mr. L. Jones' palæographic argument for the superior antiquity of the two-line inscription is strengthened by the Gaedhelic names and formula expressed in it. The name Rini, already alluded to as being found on a *termini*, or boundary stone, at Kinnard, co. Kerry, in the form of Riani, appears to have been a tribe or family name prevalent among a race who occupied the neighbouring district of Cornwall, and who appear to have imposed their name on several localities in that county, as Ruan Major, Ruan Minor, and Ruan Laniorne.¹ The same has occurred in the county of Kerry, in the neighbourhood of the Kinnard inscription, where we have a district called Tir-Ruan, or Ruan's land. That the names Rini, Riani, Ruani, Ruan, are identical there cannot be the slightest doubt.

We have, then, three distinct individuals commemorated on this pillar-stone. In Ogham, "Faccuci, the son of Cuici"; in Roman, "Fanoni, the son of Rini"; and finally, "Sasramni." This interesting monument I conceive to be an important link in the chain of evidence which connects the Gaedhal of the south of Ireland with western Britain. Many more such links will be found by a comparison of the inscribed stones of both countries, and of the names to be found on them.

LOUGHOR.

A most singular discovery has been made at Loughor, in Glamorganshire, of a Roman altar of a rude character, evidently formed out of what was originally an Ogham pillar-stone. As this monument will be described in the next number of the *Arch. Camb.* by Mr. Longueville Jones, I shall not at present further refer to it.

RICHARD ROLT BRASH, M.R.I.A.

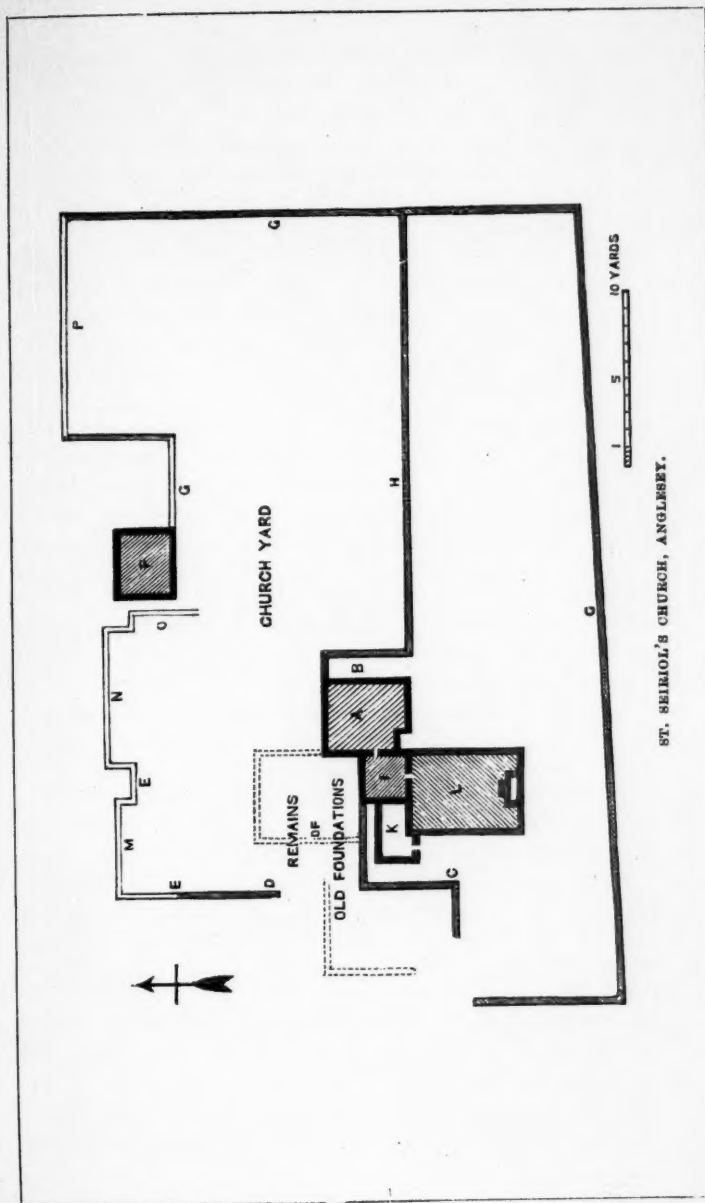
¹ The following inscription on a pillar-stone near "Michael" is given by Borlase, RVANI HIC IACIT. (*Antiq. Cornwall*, p. 364.)

DESCRIPTION OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. SEIRIOL,

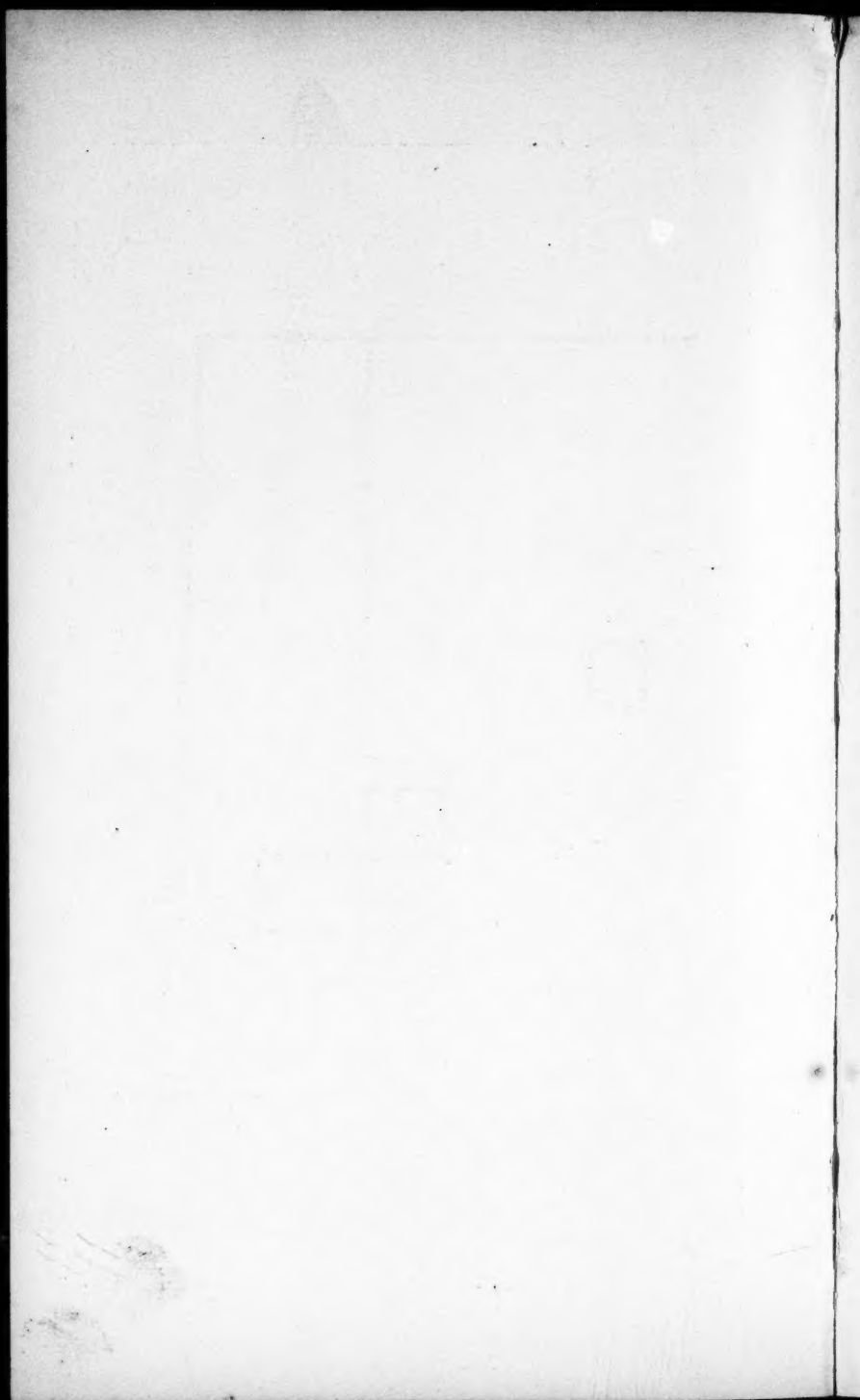
ON PUFFIN ISLAND, OFF ANGLESEY.

THE church of St. Seiriol, which stands on the summit of Puffin Island, Anglesey, has been so frequently described by various antiquaries, that it is almost needless to mention that the tower is the only part which remains visible to the eye at the first glance. There are, however, remains of foundations yet to be seen on three sides of the tower. Those on the easterly side are tolerably distinct, and of the following measurements. From the eastern doorway of the tower there is the foundation of a wall extending, north, three yards; east, five yards; south, six yards; at right angles to which it runs west, three yards and a half; north, one yard; and west again, three yards, to the tower. This is marked A in the plan. Parallel to the east wall of A, at two yards distance, is another wall, B, joining A by a wall on the north, but not connected on the south side. On the north and west of the tower are numerous remains of foundations; but too indistinct to be measured with any degree of accuracy, owing chiefly to the luxuriant growth of nettles.

However, on the west side of the tower there is still to be seen the foundation of a wall (c) running from it west, six yards; south, seven yards; west again, three yards; within which there is now a sheep-pen, and on the south side of the tower a cottage; so that it is impossible to trace any foundations there. About five yards north of, and in a direct line with the part of the wall (c) running north and south, is another wall (D), which runs north nine yards, and there ends; but has been apparently continued over an underground passage (E) built of gritstone, rough and undressed. In height it is three feet, and in breadth two, covered over



ST. SHIRLOL'S CHURCH, ANGLESEY.



with large stones, but without any other flooring than sea-sand and earth. After extending three yards in line with the wall D, it runs east, seven yards; south, one yard; east again, two yards; north, two yards; east, ten yards; south, two yards; east once more, one yard; and again south, five yards, when it is lost in rubbish. One yard east of passage E there is the foundation of a rectangular building (F) measuring south, four yards; south and east, five yards. In line with the south side extends a wall (G), east, six yards; north, eight yards; east again, fourteen yards; south, thirty-five yards; west-south-west, about forty-eight yards; and north, nine yards, where it is no longer traceable. From the west side of wall G, in line with the south side of the tower, extends another wall (H), which joins and forms a right angle with the wall B.

The space enclosed by the walls B, H, and part of G, is the graveyard, which is very evident from the number of bits of bone exposed to view by the rabbits in burrowing their holes. On enlarging one of these rabbit-holes, bones were discovered at about eighteen inches from the surface, which, on being further exposed, proved to be the tibiæ of a well-grown man, judging from the length and thickness of them. Between the knees was found a lower jaw-bone with a well-defined chin and very regular and beautiful set of teeth, though well worn. This jaw-bone could scarcely belong to the skeleton between whose knees it was; and this, taken together with the finding of several other leg-bones on each side of the first mentioned ones, and also one of the lower vertebræ of the spine, goes far to shew that this is a very ancient and well-used burial-ground. It may here be mentioned that all the bones were very much honey-combed, and stuck to the tongue, which of course proves their antiquity. The bodies seem to have been laid at about the distance of six inches from one another, and the following the mode of interment: the body is laid at full length, about two feet below the surface, upon the bare earth, with the feet to the east; appa-

rently unenclosed by either kist or coffin, and covered first with stiff yellow clay, to the thickness of about three inches, and then with small pebbles gathered from the sea-beach, which is evident from the number of whelk and limpet-shells amongst them. Over these pebbles are placed a few large stones measuring two feet in length by about one in breadth. These have formed the top of the grave, and no doubt served to mark the resting-place of the deceased.

HERFORD E. HOPPS.

19 June, 1868.

NOTES ON WEOBLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

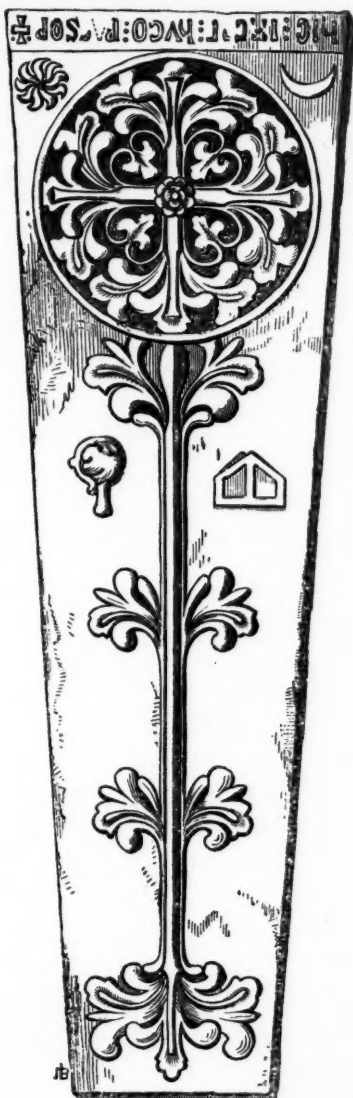
(Continued from p. 55.)

III. THE CHURCH.

THERE can be no doubt, that Hugh de Lacy, who assisted in founding the Priory of Lanthony, endowed his foundation with the rectorial tithes of Weobley. He probably lies buried in Weobley Church. The prior and convent of Lanthony were patrons of the vicarage down to the time of the Reformation, and in the taxation under Pope Nicholas IV in 1291 for a crusade we find it stated, that "Eccl. de Webbel.' est Prior. Lanton. pr'me (primæ) £12 0s. 0d. D. (decima) £1 4s. 0d. Porc'o (portio) Vicar. in eadem £5 0s. 0d. D. £0 10s. 0d."¹

In the fourth year of Elizabeth 1561-2 the Advowson of Weobley together with several others was given to Bishop Scory in exchange (entirely after the manner of Diomedes in his exchange with Glaucus), for certain lands heretofore belonging to the see of Hereford. In pursuance of this arrangement the patronage of the

¹ *Tax Eccl.*, 1291. The name entire is given in an assessment made 31 Ed. III (1357), on the occasion of the marriage of his eldest daughter, Isabella, to Ingelram de Coucy, viz. Wobbel; 12l., D. 24s.; Harl. 6765, p. 58.



vicarage remained with the Bishops of Hereford down to the time of its late alienation by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to the Bishop of Worcester.

The value of the vicarage is given in the King's Book as £9 1s. 0d., and the gross value, £26 0s. 2d.¹

In 1640 the vicarage was reported as worth £40, and the impropriate rectory, £100.²

There is an imperfect document in the British Museum which may perhaps bear upon this statement. It is an indenture made in 1612 by Richard Harford, of Garneston (in the parish of Weobley), and Mary his wife for £100 to be paid to Robert Bennett, Bishop of Hereford, and his executors, in fulfilment of certain conditions not named. It will be seen below, that the Harford family purchased one of the chantries at the time of its dissolution. This document may, perhaps, be part of a lease of the tithes from the Bishop of Hereford.

Blount says, that the bishop has the advowson of the vicarage, and four quarters of wheat, and four of oats paid him by Mr. Tomkins of Monington.³

There were two chantries in the Church; one dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary which certainly existed before 1430, as in that year the patronage belonged to Thomas Barton, of Weobley, and a commission was given to John Brown, B.C.L., Dean of Weobley, to inquire into its condition during a vacancy.⁴

In 1446, William Coley was admitted by Bishop Spofford to the service of this Chantry, at the resignation of John Clerk, on presentation by Thomas Barton, the true patron of the said Chantry.⁵

October 1489, during the absence of the Bishop (Mylling) of Hereford, Henry Whitney was admitted

¹ Bacon, *Lib. Reg.*

² MS. ccvi, ap. C. C. C., Oxon.

³ Blount, MS. coll.

⁴ *Reg. Spofford*, p. 145. The Bartons were inhabitants of Weobley. Geoffrey Barton is mentioned in a visitation of 1569, and Thomas Barton in 1586. (Harl. 1545, 1159, p. 27. See Dansey, *Hor. Dec.*, i, p. 311.)

⁵ *Reg. Spofford*, p. 21.

on presentation of Thomas Barton, at the death of William Coly.¹

May 12, 1492, during the vacancy of the see by the death of Bishop Mylling, Roger Barton was admitted, at the death of Henry Whitney, and on December 11th of the same year John Salwey, on resignation of Roger Barton.²

Blount says, that to this chapel of St. Mary did appertain divers messuages, gardens, and shops in Weobley, and a meadow, called Lady Meadow, all granted by King Edward VI, to John Harford, Esq., and his heirs.

Another writer,³ (probably Silas Taylor) says this Chantry of small revenue was sold 7 Edw. VI. (1553) to John Harford and John Farley. John Harford was a considerable purchaser of Church property of this kind. He died 1559 and was buried at Bosbury, where a tomb to his memory was erected by his son Richard in 1573, whose transaction with Bishop Bennett we saw above.⁴

A field called Lady Meadow is mentioned in a parochial survey of 1790, and also some fields called "the Parks", as belonging to the Marquis of Bath. This survey is now in the parish chest.

This chapel was on the north side of the church, for the writer in the *Topographer*, quoted above, says, "I find in 5 Edw. VI, tenements belonging to the chantry of our Lady, the lands belonging to it in the parish of Webbeley, held in chief of the Lord Ferrers and — Monington, Gent., *ex MS. de Cantar. penes G. Mayl.* He says also, "In a chapel on the north side of the church in a window is *or, fretty gu.* (Verdon)." At a visitation of the church by Bishop Croft in 1684, recorded in the parish book, the bishop directs the

¹ Reg. Mylling, p. 64.

² Ibid., pp. 3, 4, of a later portion of the same volume.

³ Topographer, vol. ii, p. 204 seq.

⁴ Duncombe, *Hist.*, i, 518, 595; Hill, *Coll.*, iii, p. 377; and MS. vol. in handwriting of Mr. Phillipps; also Harl. 1442; a Visitation of Herefordshire in 1586, p. 3.

"Monington chapel on the north side to be paved anew." And this portion of the church still bears the name of the Monington aisle.

The chapel on the south side, mentioned as belonging to the Ley, was founded to the service of S. Nicholas, not long before the Dissolution, by John Chapman and Alice Baker, who gave the manor of Blackhall, with the appurtenances, in the county of Hereford, and part in King's Pyon, and other lands, tenements, for the finding a priest to celebrate mass, and to pray for all the founders. Sir James Morgan was the last priest there. (This is a copy of the Survey, 1 Edward VI.) In 5 Elizabeth (1562-3) it was granted to Sir Christopher Hatton, who sold it to John King, of Hereford, in 24 Elizabeth (1581-2), being then valued at £6 13s. 1d., or according to another statement £6 12s. 8d.

There were once two coats of arms on the rail of this chapel,¹ Bridges, and ² a coat, which is repeated, and still exists on the roof of the nave. (Sourdevall, or Surdwal).¹

Blount thus describes the chapels. "The one, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and appertains to Bridges of Ley, wherein was a monument, the inscription whereof, on a brass lamina, is still preserved, having the arms of Brugge, and other quarterings, and these words, "Hic jacet Rowlandus Brugge de Ley in Com. Hereford gen'et Margaretta Helorn uxor ejus, qui quidem Rolandus obiit die . . . Anno Dni—et dicta Margareta obiit 18 Die Novembr. Anno Dni Jhi . . . quorum animabus propitiatur Deus.' The other chapel is dedicated to St. Nicholas,² which in

¹ Bacon, *Lib. Reg.*, p. 375, 6766, 6695, p. 111, p. 126; Harl. 6726, and *Topographer*, u. s.; also MS. by Mr. Brome, at Belmont, in which it is also stated, but without mention of authority, that fourteen priests belonged to Weobley Church. This MS. calls the chapel the Lady Chapel (p. 66).

² Blount is clearly wrong in this. The north chapel was the one dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary, and the south one to S. Nicholas. (See the Visitation of Bishop Croft *supra*.)

truth was a chantry, but by whom founded I have not seen, it belongs to Little Sarnesfield, and to Ed. Monington, Esq., as owner thereof. In the window of the chapel are the arms of Verdon, and below the remains of a monument of alabaster, with the effigies of a churchman, and a circumscription not legible, onlyobiit.....cujus animæ..... This chantry was by Queen Elizabeth granted to Sir C. Hatton, Kt., and his heirs."¹

Bishop Croft at his visitation in 1684, ordered that as to the chapel on the south side, in which Col. Birch and Mr. Bridges sat, Mr. Bridges was to take his choice between the chapel and a seat in the church, and the occupant of the chapel to re-pave it and erect seats.

The arms of Verdon in the window of the north chapel, and the "alabaster" monument have perished, likewise the coats of arms, and the monument on the south side to Rowland Brugge, unless it still exists beneath the modern floor. On a flat stone close by is an inscription to "Simon Bridges, Gent., who departed this life 1702," and a shield with the arms of Bridges. There is a piscina in the south wall of very good eleventh century workmanship.

The screen work in each of the two chapels was in excellent preservation up to the year 1868, but in that year the whole was removed with the exception of a single corner post, belonging to the Monington chapel, on which was a shield carved with the emblem of the Trinity. This post has been transferred to the south side, and erected against the east wall. The removal of the screens was no doubt effected with the best intentions, but to all appearance was an act of needless demolition of ancient and interesting monuments.

With regard to the Church in general, the episcopal registers furnish us with a list, though not a complete one, of the incumbents from the thirteenth century to the present time. They begin with the episcopate of Bishop Cantilupe, but are not complete for the period,

¹ Pat. 24 Eliz., p. 5. (See note 2, p. 173.)

and the only point on which they inform us is that Weobley was then, as it is now also, the site of a rural deanery.

1287.—*Bishop Swinfield*. 13 Kal. Jul. (June 19) Philip de Wonyton was admitted to the vicarage on presentation of the prior and convent of Lanthony, p. 43.

1308.—Jan. John Lucas, p. 164.

1312.—Roger de Baskerville, then only sixteen years old, and notoriously unfit, was rejected by the good bishop, who instead of him admitted W. de la Wode, p. 182. The same worthy bishop in 1282 had refused to give clerical promotion to Nicholas de Genevil, son of Geoffrey de Genevil, lord of Ludlow (husband of Maud de Lacy), then only ten years old, though requested by the king to do so; but undertook to allow him ten marks *per ann.* out of his own purse till he should be of age to hold church preferment.¹

Bishop Trilleck, 1344.—Richard de Tunybourht (Tunbridge) resigned benefice, and Nicholas de Hopton was presented.

1345.—Nich. de Hopton, rector of Escall Parva in dioc. Coventr. and Lichfield, admitted to vicarage of Weobley in exchange for former, p. 10.

Sept. 11th, 1349.—Roger Bruggewhrith, p. 29.

Bishop Trefnant. Nov. 4th, 1396.—John ap Jor., p. 38. In p. 44, I find an entry of the presentation of the Vicar of Weobley to the benefice of Brugwyn in the diocese of St. David's, but no mention of his successor.

Bishop Polton. Jan. 24th, 1420.—John ap Eynon, on resignation of Walter Drayton, to whom a pension is assigned on account of his infirmities of seven marks *per ann.* payable at Lady Day, Midsummer, Michaelmas, and Christmas. He was also to have a chamber with a fire-place over the door of the vicarage, with free ingress and egress.

Bishop Spofford. Oct. 21, 1446.—John Clerk, p. 1, presb. chaplain of the chantry of S. Mary, on resigna-

¹ Reg. Swinfield, p. 1; Harl. 6596.

tion of John ap Griffiths, alias Payne (doubtless the John ap Eynon of the last entry). The said John ap Griffiths resigns on account of his infirmities, especially strangury and stone, and as he has behaved well, he is to have a pension of eight marks, and also a chamber on the ground floor (bassam cameram) near the door (of the vicarage), and the way which leads to Weobley church; also light, fire, and use of kitchen, p. 20.

Bishop Boulers. May, 1450.—John ap Richard, on death of John ap Griffiths.

Bishop Stanbury. Oct. 19th, 1463.—Thomas Gough on resignation of Philip Porvaie, p. 55.

July 17th, 1473.—John ap Richard, on resignation of Lewis Jonys (Jones). The reader will notice the frequent occurrence of Welsh names.

April 23th, 1480.—During absence of Bishop Mylling, David Clous.

June 25th, 1482.—During vacancy of the see by the death of Bishop Mylling, the Vicar-General Thomas Morton, Archdeacon of Salop admitted David . . . LL.B., on resignation of Robert Vobus.

N.B.—At this place the MS. has been much damaged by erasion and otherwise, and the writing is difficult to decipher.

Bishop Foze. May 2, 1535.—William Duppa, on resignation of John Battye, on presentation of Lanthony near Gloucester, p. 4. Lanthony *prima* was annexed to Lanthony *secunda* in the time of Edward IV.¹

Bishop Scory. February 14th, 1561. — Lancelot Kinsley, Presb. was admitted to vicarage on presentation of Queen Elizabeth, p. 4.

The same Launcelot Kinsley at the general requisition for arms in 1608 was assessed at one musket.²

Bishop Bennett. June 1st, 1611, gives a license to Richard Childe, B.A., Vicar of Weobley, to preach there and at Lempster, p. 70. Richard Childe was also in 1635, in 1638, and 1640 assessed at one musket. *ib.* pp. 47, 50, 99. In the same year the commissioners

¹ Tanner, *Not. Mon.*

² Scudamore MS. X, 11050.

for the Survey of the Ministry in Herefordshire reported of the vicarage of Weobley and its vicar as follows:—

“A vicaridge worth per annum £40. Mr. Child, vicar, an old man, neyther preacher nor of good life, ye parsonage impropriate to the Bishop of Hereford, worth per annum £100 who is also patron.”¹

Whether Mr. Child was ejected from his vicarage does not appear; but among the non-conformist ministers ejected in 1662, was Mr. Nicholas Billingsley from Weobley (val. £80),² who may thus be inferred to have succeeded him.

In 1665 a notice occurs in the register of *Bishop Croft*, of an undertaking on the part of Col. Birch to rebuild the vicarage-house which was then ruined, and Samuel Clarke is named as vicar, p. 209.

In 1684, as noticed above, Bishop Croft visited the church, and ordered the chancel to be repaved by Col. Birch, the farmer of the tithes.³

Pepys in his diary relates a conversation between himself and Col. Birch, in which the gallant colonel expresses a favourable opinion of bishops' leases as an investment, because, as he said, “they could not stand, and so would fall into the king's hands, and I may gain some advantage thereby.”⁴ How the same astute financier outwitted Bishop Croft in regard to the manor of Whitborne, and also to the tithes of Dilwyn, and was repaid by the bishop with some very choice epithets, is recorded in correspondence still extant, but does not belong to the history of Weobley.

The succeeding vicars of Weobley are as follows:—
Stephen Lewis, May 26th, 1690.

Morgan Evans, December, 15th, 1704, on whose monumental tablet it is recorded that he left two sons and four daughters, of whom three were married to the incumbents respectively of Staunton in Dean Forest, Staunton on Wye, and Staunton on Arrow. Joseph

¹ MS. ap. C. C. C. Library, Oxon., p. 206.

² Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, ii, p. 297.

³ Par. Reg. Weobley.

⁴ Pepys, *Diary*, iii, 361.

Guest, the incumbent last named, succeeded his father-in-law in the vicarage of Weobley, June 17th, 1737.

Thomas Evans, July 17th, 1759; Morgan Price, July 1st, 1760; Morgan Price, December 3rd, 1781, also rector of Byford; William Bridge, September 26th, 1782; William Bridge, July 15th, 1783; J. E. Troughton, May 1st, 1790; John Birch Webb (Peploe), August 2nd, 1826; obt., January 27th, 1869.

In the course of the Episcopal Registers it is mentioned that on April 14th, 1325, *Bishop Adam Orleton* dedicated the church of Webbeleye, and three altars therein. This must refer to some later addition to the original building, as the date of this is much earlier, p. 94.

Bishop Spofford (circ. 1435) gives permission, when the festival of the dedication of Weobley Church fell during Passion Week or the season of Easter, to change the day to the Sunday next after the Feast of Relicks, and this is to be done annually, p. 155. On this arises a question difficult to solve. The church is dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul,¹ whose festival day occurs June 29th. The Feast of Relicks occurs on January 27th, and Relick Sunday on the third Sunday after Midsummer Day. It is difficult to see how the Dedication Day could ever fall either in Passion Week (the week next before Easter, sometimes, but not in this place, called Holy Week,² or in Easter Week). Perhaps some more learned antiquarian than myself may be able to explain the difficulty.

Bishop Beauchamp in 1450, held an ordination in Weobley Church, p. 16.

In the Register of *Bishop Bennett*, among a list of "Popish recusants" in Herefordshire is found the name of Jane Bridges, widow, sojourning in her son's house at Weobley, and also that of her servant Joice. Mrs. Bridges is said to be the sister of Richard Blount, of Lempster, p. 78.

¹ Bacon, *Lib. Reg.*, p. 375.

² See also *Pilgrimage of Sir R. Guildford*, Camd. Soc., p. 3; Nicolas, *Chron. Hist.*, p. 166.

In the *Roll of Bishop Swinfield*, edited by that venerable antiquarian, now gone to his rest, the Rev. J. Webb, we find that on Monday, May 29th, 1289, the bishop visited Weobley, and lodged there one night, and that hay and oats for thirty-eight horses were supplied by the prior of Lantony the rector of the place.¹

The *Parish Register* begins with March 25th, 1635.—Richard Childe, Vicar. The earliest book is in good condition. The following entries are extracted from various parts of the several books belonging to the parish.

1636.—Married 3; baptized 6; buried 12.

1653.—Thomas Baskerville, of Eardisley, J.P., approves of Roger Smith, of Weobley, to be Registrar of births, marriages, and deaths.

— Baptised 17, buried 24.

1659.—Collection by brief for inhabitants of Soulby (Solebay?) in Suffolk, suffered by a storm, 11s. 0½d.

1663.—For repairs of Canon Frome Church, and for inhabitants of Hexham, 4s. 2d.

1664.—For those visited with the plague in London and elsewhere, 8s. 9d.

1684.—Bishop Croft visited the church, and besides orders mentioned above, ordered that the "Communion Table, then standing with the (one) end east, and the other west," not to be altered, but at the charge of the churchwardens (*i.e.* not at Col. Birch's expense).

— May 6th, James Young "inhumaniter trucidatus est et bonis omnibus spoliatus, post occultam inhumationem a barbaris trucidatoribus per novem septimanas miraculosa providentia dei inventus, publice sepeliebatur in semiteria ecclesiæ de Webley. Trucidatus erat in horreo apud Devereux Wootton dum dormiebat."

1691.—May 14th, John Birch, Esq., buried.²

1697.—"John, son of Charles Turnor, and Mary his wife, born July 11th, baptized Thursday July 15th, by

¹ Swinfield Roll, pp. 89 and ccxix.

² Bishop Croft died May 18, 1691. See above, p. 177.

one—Halsey, a Presbyterian minister, who usually preaches at a meeting-house in Leominster, and Joseph Twemlow, who preaches at the meeting-house in Weobley, attending upon him.”

1717.—For a new clock, £8 5s.

Many entries occur of money paid to the ringers on various occasions—the victory of Blenheim—that of Preston, &c., *inter alia*, “gave to a maimed soldier which had his gutts tied up before him 1s.” Many soldiers also from Ireland were relieved.

The dimensions of the church are as follows:—

Chancel, 54 feet 8 inches long, and 22 feet wide.

Nave, 65 feet 5 inches extreme width, 68 feet 2 inches. Width of the nave alone, to the centre of the pillars, 25 feet 1 inch. Width of the south aisle, 20 feet $0\frac{1}{2}$ inch. North aisle, 23 feet $0\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

The oldest part of the building recognizable by its style is the south porch, which belongs to the twelfth century. Some work of the thirteenth century also remains, but the greater part belongs to the fourteenth with some later additions. The clerestory windows of the fourteenth century are particularly fine. The chancel arch belongs to the same date. The staircase to the rood-loft, and the door therefrom into the church are fully preserved. There are five bays in the nave, the arch at the east end on the north side has the ball-flower ornament. The oak timber roof is of later date, fifteenth or sixteenth century, and of good workmanship. It bears various devices, among them a shield with the arms of Bridges, and one with those of Sourdevall. What connection existed between this latter family and Weobley I have been unable to discover. There are in the aisle windows some remains of glass of the fifteenth century, very fine in quality, but much mutilated.

The tower stands at the north-west angle of the church, and projects obliquely into the north aisle. It belongs to the fourteenth or early part of the fifteenth century, and is surmounted by a spire of the same character, “the top whereof,” says Blount, with the cross

about the year 1640, was blown down in a tempest and not yet repaired. One bar of iron which fell with it, weighing three hundred pounds. The spire was repaired in 1675,¹ but deprived of some twenty feet of its height. It is now in much need of repair. The ground floor of the tower has a vaulted roof of stone. There are six bells with the following inscriptions:—

1. "Beware my roing sound before ye lie in ground. 1657."

2. "Gift of Mansel Powell" (see above p. 14).

3. "London. 1838."

4. "God save His Church. 1605."

5. "God save Queen Anne. 17—"

6. "Be it known to all that shall me see, John Martin of Worcester made me. 1657." Before this, but not fully to be seen, "—ce (peace?) and good neighbour-hood. 17—."

In p. 166 of Dineley's *History from Marble*, may be seen a plate with this inscription: "The south prospect of Weobley's church, as its steeple now stands, anno MDCLXXXII, beautified, repair'd, and adorn'd by John Birch, Esq., one of the hon^{ble} burgesses for this ancient corporation."

Returning to the interior of the church we find several sepulchral monuments well worthy of attention:

1. At the east end of the north side of the chancel a huge monument to Col. Birch, consisting of a really noble figure, though exaggerated in altitude, of white marble, standing under a niche with Corinthian columns, and warlike emblems on each side. He is in full armour, and holds a truncheon in his right hand. The inscription beneath is as follows: "In hope of resurrection to eternall life, here is deposited the body of Coll. John Birch (descended of a worthy family in Lancashire). As the dignities he arrived at in the field, and the esteem universally yielded him in the Senat-House, exceeded the attainments of most, so they were but the moderate

¹ Topographer, ii, 207; see also *inf.*

rewards of his courage, conduct, wisdom, and fidelity. None who knew him denied him y^e charatter of asserting and vindicating y^e laws and liberties of his country in war, and of promoting its welfare and prosperity in peace. He was borne y^e 7th of Sept. 1626, and died (a member of y^e hon^{ble} House of Com'ons, being burgess for Weobley), May y^e 10th, 1691." His arms are above the niche, viz., *az. three fleurs-de-lys arg.* In reference to this inscription Wood has the following story: "We hear from Hereford that the bishop of that see went to Welby to deface an inscription on a monument erected in that church in memory of Coll. Jo. Birch, the minister and churchwardens thinking some words thereon were not right for the church institution. The colonel's nephew designs to bring an action against the bishop for defacing it."¹ The date of this entry is May 1694, the bishop was Gilbert Ironside, the minister of Weobley was Stephen Lewis. There is no sign on the monument of any violence or alteration; but whether Wood was misinformed as to the facts, or the bishop changed his mind, or whether the mutilation took place, and was afterwards repaired, I am unable to say.

A MS. by Mr. Hill, in Mr. Clive's possession at Whitfield, gives the date of Col. Birch's birth, April 7, 1616; and the same year is also given in the history of Birch Chapel by the Chetham Society, p. 90; so also says Wood, and it is, no doubt, the correct one. He was eldest son of Samuel Birch of Ardwick in the county of Chester. He was secluded from Parliament in 1656, and in 1660 took part in the negotiations for the return of Charles II. His personal history is, or soon will be, recorded in one of the Camden Society's volumes; but I defer further mention of his family to a later portion of this paper, to which it more properly belongs.

2. There are several tablets on the north wall of the chancel, in memory of members of the Birch and Peploe families; and one on the south side to Samuel Birch, barrister, nephew to the colonel, who died 1752, and

¹ Wood, *Life*, p. cxviii.

was buried April 7, of whom I shall have to speak hereafter.

3, 4. But the most remarkable monuments are two of much earlier date than any of those above mentioned. One on the north side represents a single figure, in full armour, recumbent on an altar-tomb of the fifteenth century; the other, on the south side, exhibits two figures, a man in armour and a lady side by side. All the figures are admirably executed, and though a good deal defaced, are remarkable for their beauty. Silas Taylor, writing in 1655, and quoted in the *Topographer*,¹ says: "In the chancel, on the north side, an ancient tomb of one in close armour, with a lion at his feet; with the crest of a man's head out of a crown, issuing by the neck; long-bearded, and a wreath about his forehead. Near him, on the wall, hangs up a wooden shield with the arms of Devereux. Over against it, on the south side, another shield hangs up, with a cross engrailed between four spear-heads. I could not discern the colours. The people say it was the governor's of the castle. A little lower, near the remains of the quire, are the effigies of a man in close armour, and a woman. Under the man's head lies his helmet with the like crest as before, and a lion at his feet. There is no coat-armour about them; but underneath, on a very ancient stone, and of a very ancient make, are these letters, HVGIS LASCII, *Cenobium Lanthoni*." The writer of Harl. 6868 wrote BISSOP instead of LASCII, and then erased it.

Blount, writing somewhat later, says: "In the chancel you may see an ancient monument of a man in full proportion, cut in alabaster; another, in like manner, lying by his wife; and on the fore part of his helmet i. h. s. engraven, without any arms or memorial who they were; but without doubt they were some of the family of the Verdens. There are two shields hanging in the chancel, the one having the arms of Devereux, the other"..... The two wooden shields have long since been taken down from their places on the wall. On one of them

¹ Harl. 6868, 6726; *Topogr.* ii, 204 seq.

the traces are just visible of a *cross engrailed between four spear-heads* (or passion-nails), the arms of Marbury. From the other all traces of armorial bearings have disappeared; and as both have, from time to time, undergone the disfiguring process of serving as mortar-boards, it is scarcely needful to add that they have quite lost their heraldic colours.

Sir S. R. Meyrick, who visited Weobley and also Dilwyn Church in 1827, and wrote an account of his visits in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for October in that year, gives an account of an entry in the Dilwyn Register: "Vernon¹ in Weobley chancel. 'Here is inserted a rough drawing of the monument with a single effigy.' In Weobley Church also, almost opposite to the former monument,... 'Here again is a drawing, in similar style, of the monument, on which are two effigies; and the vicar has written upon it the name of Devereux.'" Sir S. R. Meyrick, after a careful examination of the two monuments, and the style of the dress and armour of each, concluded that the single figure, which is of somewhat older date than the other two, represented some member of the Marbury family; and that the two figures on the other monument, which are of the date of the early part of the reign of Henry VI, represent (Sir) John Marbury² and his first wife, Alicia, daughter of Sir John Pembroke; whose brother, Sir Richard, K.G., died 1375, and whose effigy exists in Hereford Cathedral. Mr. J. G. Nichols suggests that the single figure is that of John Marbury, and that the two represent Sir W. Devereux and his wife, Elizabeth Marbury. If the dates of the armour were consistent with the notion, I would myself suggest that the single figure is that of Sir Wm. Devereux, first husband of Agnes Crophull, who died 1402; and that the two figures represent the same Agnes, who died 1433; and her second husband, John Marbury, who died 1437. My reasons for thinking so are—(a), that Silas Taylor says the Devereux

¹ Vernon is obviously a mistake for Verdon.

² See above, p. 5; also Harl. 1159 (*Vis. Heref.*, 1586), p. 43.

shield hung on the north side, and the Marbury shield on the south; (b), that the male figure on the south side has a collar of SS, and we know that John Marbury held under Henry V more than one office of a domestic nature, of which this collar may be significant. But in the absence of all certainty, conjecture must be taken at whatever may be its true value.

5. Underneath the stone slab on which the two figures repose, is another, on which is visible a portion of a floriated cross; and this, again, rests on a mass of stonework, which perhaps is itself, or encloses, that stone "of ancient make," which bore, or still bears, upon it the name of Hugh Lacy, the co-founder of Lanthony Priory about 1108. With this date, that of the south porch of the church would very fairly agree. Let us hope that some happy coincidence may at some time again bring to light a monument so interesting as this "stone of ancient make," with its inscription, would be.

6. Passing on to the nave, we have to regret the disappearance both of those monuments mentioned above, and also of another which Blount describes thus, "a fair tomb covered with a marble stone, which had brass plates on it both for the inscription and arms. The inscription, they say, began thus, 'Of y^r charity pray for the soul of Watkin Garway and Agnes his wife'.....to confirm which there remains a little *lamina* with these *tres*, W. T. G., the middle *tre* being the Greek *tau*. These Garways had a mansion house at Leys, after bought and laid to that of Bridges; and bore for their arms, *ar.* a pile surmounted by a fess between four leopards' heads *gules*."

7. There are several incised crosses on stones forming part of the pavement of the church,—one with a shield in outline, and on it T. B.; also a small shield in the corner, and the date 1676. There is a stone built into the wall of the tower where it projects into the church, having these words, "...ejus ... quorum ..."

8. Near the tower stands an altar-tomb without any apparent name, but from which brass or other plates

have been removed. Upon it loaves of bread are placed to be distributed periodically to the poor.

9. But the most beautiful and important monumental relic is a flat stone bearing a floriated cross, in low relief, of the thirteenth century, of great beauty; and the inscription at its head, "*Hic jacet Hugo Bissop*," very clearly cut, and distinctly legible. It also bears a mitre and a pastoral staff. Hugo Bissop, of "Webbeley," is mentioned frequently in the charters printed at the end of Dr. Rawlinson's *History of Hereford Cathedral*. In one of them (No. 27) he appears as the giver of eighteen acres and a half of land in the parish of Norton Canon to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford. In others he appears as a witness to similar gifts on the part of other persons. He was thus, doubtless, a man well affected towards the Church, and perhaps this may account for the mitre and pastoral staff on his tomb; but of his personal history we know nothing further.

In the churchyard there was a cross, raised on a base with steps, part of the shaft of which is visible in Dineley's drawing. A new one has been recently erected on the ancient pedestal, at the cost of the Rev. W. Marriener, a late curate of the parish. The church and chancel have both lately undergone extensive repairs. Much of the decayed stone-work has been renewed, and the fine timber roof repaired. The floors of both nave and chancel have been laid with encaustic tiles, and the old pews and inconvenient seats replaced by open benches of good character. The east window has also been filled with stained glass in memory of the late Capt. D. Peploe of Garnstone. Much good has been effected; but it is to be regretted that the works were not designed and carried out, in all respects, with skill and taste proportionate to the good will and liberal spirit in which they were undertaken by the promoters and the parish.

(To be continued.)

ON THE STUDY OF WELSH ANTIQUITIES.

(Continued from p. 86.)

NO. II.—GLAMORGAN.

CROMLECHS AND EARLY BRITISH STONES.

BEFORE proceeding to notice the points requiring further study and illustration in this county, after briefly advertising, in the first paper of this series, to *early British* and *Roman remains*, it may be well to remark of the cromlechs and stones of the *early British* period, that the whole county requires further examination in respect of this class of remains. Only four cromlechs have hitherto been pointed out to notice in Glamorgan, viz. three at Dyffryn, near St. Nicholas, on the property of Mr. Bruce Pryce, described in one of the earlier volumes of the *Arch. Camb.*; and one, the famous *Coetan Arthur*, or the *Maen Arthur* as it is more appropriately termed, on Cefn Bryn in Gower, which is about to be described and illustrated in this Journal by Sir Gardner Wilkinson. It is hardly probable that no more remains of this kind should not exist, especially among the little-known hills of the upland district, and the attention of antiquaries may well be directed to the subject.

With regard to the Dyffryn cromlechs, two points still require further examination.—(1). Under the larger one, described in this Journal, interments may well be looked for. The author of this paper, on first exploring it, found the ground of that dark brown, *fatty* nature which betokens the deposit of animal remains; and he picked up, almost on the surface, in one of its inmost recesses, a well-preserved human lower jaw-bone, which he immediately deposited with Mr. Bruce Pryce, the owner of the ground. His impression at the time, now more than twenty years ago, was that the ground under the cromlech had been very little, if at all, disturbed,

and that it promised to reward a careful exploration. (2). The upper cromlech at Dyffryn, one of the tallest to be met with in Britain, seemed to him at the time, unless his memory be treacherous, to have the surfaces of its supporters much marked with the cups or circular holes, since brought into scientific notice by Sir J. Y. Simpson; and his impression in this respect remains so strong, that he would still recommend a careful examination of the monument to be made. A good view of it, to be engraved in this Journal, is still an archæological *desideratum*. Search for similar remains may well be made, where some indications of them exist, at Cottrell, near St. Lythan's, in the Cardiff district of the county.

EARLY INSCRIBED STONES.

Most of the remains of this class known to exist in Glamorgan have been noticed more or less fully in the *Arch. Camb.*, and some of them engraved; but this by no means precludes the want of further search, more especially of further illustration. Thus the Gelligaer stone, formerly standing in a field below the church, has still to be looked for. It is said to be lost; and its inscription, which has been partly preserved in Gough's *Camden*, is said to have been obliterated. But now that this class of monuments is so much better understood than was formerly possible, fresh search should be set on foot; for the missing stone may possibly be found doing duty as a gate-post, according to the common custom in such cases; or as a door-step, like the ancient head of a cross at Llanguick, up the fine Vale of the Tawe, until it was rescued by Dr. Price of Glan Twre, and transferred, for preservation, to his garden, where it still remains. The inscribed stones, cross-shafts, etc., at Llantwit Major still require to be suitably delineated and engraved. They have appeared already, it is true, as inadequate lithographic plates in a volume of the Welsh MSS. Society; but they are the finest remains of the kind in this county, and they ought to receive all

the care and commemoration which the combined resources of photography and engraving can bestow upon them. They are not preserved with sufficient care, either in the church or the graveyard at Llantwit; but the responsibility for this lies with the local authorities, who appear to be but slightly aware of their archæological importance. One of them was much injured in former years by having served as a kind of *stump* for cricketing, then practised in the churchyard, when the balls hit the inscription just in the middle, and the surface scaled off in consequence. Since then the boys of the place sometimes mount the upright slab of which the monument consists, and sitting with their feet over it, hanging down from the top, still try the toughness of the limestone with their heels precisely in the inscribed portion.

But one of the great omissions of the Association is the forgetting to examine properly, and to illustrate, the great stones preserved in the garden at Merthyr Mawr, near Bridgend. They appear to be of very early date, and yet of elaborate execution, but no successful attempt at deciphering their deeply incised surfaces has hitherto been recorded. When the Association meets at Bridgend this year, a careful inspection of these venerable monuments, and of the ground in which they stand, of no small geological interest, ought certainly to be made.

Unless the author is forgetful, there is at least one early inscribed stone in the Museum of the Royal Institution at Swansea, which still calls for illustration; and it is his full conviction that other inscribed stones of early British date may still be found on careful search being made for them within the limits of Glamorgan.

DANISH AND POST-ROMAN CAMPS.

That Danish camps and similar earthworks are to be found in this county, more particularly on the coast of the Bristol Channel, we know from the researches of

the late Rev. H. Hey Knight, who communicated his discoveries to the Association at the pleasant meeting of Monmouth. But what that most accomplished and learned antiquary then gave to the world, ought to be gone over again, and his observations, if possible, amplified. From Penarth Point, near Cardiff, along by Barry Island (which points to something Danish, probably, in its name); and so along the coast by the great Danish camp covering the entrance of the old harbour of Llantwit; and so on by the headland of Nash Point and Dunraven Castle, to the sands of Kenfig,—all this line of coast deserves careful examination and survey. Many tidal inroads have been made along it, but still the district is very promising to the careful archæologist; and the results of such a survey, even if of a purely negative character, ought to be laid before the Association. Further in, at the mouths of the Afan and the Neath rivers (especially the latter, where the existing appellation of Briton Ferry, and the name of the hill of Kilvey, between that and the Tawe, smack of something Danish), search ought carefully to be made. At Swansea (*Sweyn's eye* or islet?), we doubtless come upon Danish ground; and from thence all round the rocky coast of Gower, till we reach the mouth of the Loughor river, we may expect to find remains of the Danes and the sea-rovers in abundance. The very appellation of the Worm's Head, reminding us so strongly of the Great Orme's Head in Carnarvonshire, is a warning that the survey should be comprehensive as well as careful upon such promising ground. The *desideratum* is likely to be satisfied, we believe, by the care and diligence of Sir Gardner Wilkinson, now a resident in that most interesting district of Gower; but in the meantime it ought to be recorded that this is one of the great omissions made by antiquaries in Wales.

On the whole, it may be affirmed that much still remains to be done in Glamorgan in respect of the earlier classes of antiquities: and that the work ought not to be delayed, if only on account of the rapid change

induced upon the district by the effects of modern industry and activity. The neighbourhoods of Cardiff and Swansea alone convey intrinsic evidence of the changes wrought even upon moors and hills by the requirements of manufacturing and commercial populations: and we may learn, from the altered appearance of the valleys of the Tawe and the Taff, how great may be the oblitative processes of only a few years.

While upon this earlier part of the study of Glamorganshire antiquities, it may be well to advert to the changes of coast line, a topic, which, from over-squeamishness as to non-intrusion on the province of other publications,—by no means reciprocated by the way,—has not yet been noticed in the pages of this journal. The alterations that have taken place from various natural causes in the coast-line of this county, along the Bristol Channel, have been so considerable that the antiquarian observer cannot but be struck with them. To begin at the eastern extremity, it is certain that near Cardiff the coast-line of the present day is not the same as it was in the early years of the mediæval period,—nor, indeed, as it was a few years ago. The formation of the docks at Cardiff, the embankments of the Taff and the sea-walls on the tidal marshes, have had the effect of reclaiming much land from the Severn sea. The old *embouchure* of the Taff may be placed much farther up, inland, than it now occurs: and even the precincts of the town wall testify to a drying up, or banking out of the waters. All about the entrance of the docks is new land; and, indeed, the process of building in this thriving town is so rapid, that new buildings at one end of a street near the docks and river have not yet had the water pumped up out of their cellars, before those at the other end of the street are already inhabited and underlet, perhaps to dozens of miner tenants. Whoever would study the defences of Cardiff castle, and the commanding look-out post of Penarth Head, must bear this fact in mind. Cardiff must always have been a kind of amphibious place; and even Llandaff itself must have been a kind

of seaside retirement for the holy men who originally dwelt there. Even now at Canton, the village between it and Cardiff, and along by the Penarth docks, it is difficult to say where water ends and land begins; the whole district is a function of stagnant pools, and what was lately a marsh is rapidly assuming the character of terra firma. The Taff may well be considered as having lost its fluviate character not far below Castell Coch; and probably the transit of the Romans had to be effected by ferry, before the gently rising swells of Llandaff could be reached. It were much to be wished that the muniments of the Bute family might throw some light upon these changes.

After leaving Penarth, and on coming round westward to Barry island, and the mouth of the Thaw, or Taw river, changes of coast line will be observed; and speculation as to the landing-places of Danish and Irish sea rovers must be modified accordingly. At Llantwit Major, that is to say, below the town, now one of the least known along the coast, the existence of an ancient harbour and its probable defences can be easily traced out. The Danish, or at least the Early, camp defending the sea approach still remains. It was here that Mr. H. Hey Knight exercised his discriminative powers; and here, too, the observations of antiquaries, who have survived him, are still required. There is much to be observed and noted down all about this part of the coast, ere the former importance of Llantwit, once an assize town and a place of trade, can be properly understood. So too, still to the westward round by St. Donat's castle, the Nash Point, and the Skerwether rocks, and so on to Newton and Dunraven, and Ogmore castle, all the rocky indented coast wants careful examination before the early comparative importance of the buildings on the land can be properly understood. Why should Newton have decayed? why should Porth Cawl have risen up? why should the town, not the village, of Kenfigge have become utterly obliterated? Was the farm of Sker always the out-of-the-way, de-

solate, and goblin place which we now deem it? What became of the Roman road along the sands, where now the Margam tenants try their skill at "bandy?" Were the marshes of Margam always such as we now see them, or were they not once the richest farms of the country? and what of the Avan river and Port Talbot? and all the coalfield from Margam to Briton Ferry? There is abundant work here for the antiquary and the geologist, ere the history of this part of Glamorgan can be complete.

It would be interesting to determine whether the flat lands about the Norman castle of Neath were always such, or whether they constituted an easily flooded defence of the castle walls; whether, indeed, the course of the Neath river may not have been greatly changed since Norman days; and how far the great Abbey of Neath stood from the mouth of the river. The lofty hill of Kilvey is certainly worth looking after for traces of Danish remains; and a still more interesting, because less easily settled question, is that of the probable position of the former mouth of the Tawe, not, as now, in the port of Swansea, but rather under the walls of Oystermouth Castle. All the bay of Swansea, from the Nash Point on the east to the Mumbles-head on the west, may afford ample room for antiquarian researches; and these should be undertaken by some of our members residing on the spot, by whom they could be so well conducted. We certainly do not see this bay now as it once was; but we might know more about it, if due search were made.

Add to this, all the indented caverned coast of Gower from the cove of Pwll Du (which Swansea excursionists still persist in calling *pull die*) to the sand-locked harbours of Pennard, and Oxwich, and so on by Wormshead to the muddy flats of Loughor, requires to be studied and mapped out by the careful archæologist.

H. L. J.

(To be continued.)

CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—1868.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.		RECEIPTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To postages, etc., 1866	- - 6 18 0	January 1, 1868. By balance in Treasurer's hands -	- - 54 13 0
" printing	- - 174 5 2	By subscriptions, etc. -	- - 305 7 0
" lithographs	- - 2 5 0		
" wood engraving	- - 66 16 0		
" Editor's salary	- - 40 0 0		
" postages	- - 7 12 4		
" balance in Treasurer's hands 31st December, 1868	- - 62 3 6		
	<u>£360 0 0</u>		<u>£360 0 0</u>

Audited and found correct.

THOS. POWELL } Auditors for
JOHN MORGAN } 1868.

JOSEPH JOSEPH, F.S.A., Treasurer.

Brecon. 22nd March, 1869.

CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE OF TIME OF MEETING FOR 1869.

THE day of this year's meeting for the Association, at Bridgend, has been fixed by the noble President for Monday, August 9th, when it is much to be hoped that the weather will prove as favourable as it commonly does in Glamorganshire at that period of the year.

Members will find good hotel accommodation at the *Wyndham Arms* and other houses in that town, as well as private lodgings; but for the latter it is recommended that early application be made.

The Ven. Archdeacon Blosse, vicar of Newcastle, Bridgend, has consented to act as Chairman of the Local Committee on this occasion; but further particulars as to the names of the Committee and the course of proceedings will be given in the next number of the Journal.

The South Wales Railway from Gloucester to Pembroke has one of its principal stations in the town, and all means of communication and locomotion are most ample. We repeat that the district is one peculiarly rich in all mediæval remains, and a most interesting meeting may be confidently anticipated.

Correspondence.

LLANBADARN FAWR CHURCH, CARDIGAN-SHIRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARCH. CAMB.

SIR,—Referring to my letter, which appeared in the last Journal, on the subject of the two fresco-paintings discovered under the white-wash on the north and south walls of the nave in the old cathedral church of Llanbadarn Fawr during its restoration, as being those of St. Peter and the Earl of Strygil; upon further consideration I am induced to draw the inference that the figure supposed to represent a lioness on her haunches, must be that of a leopard (probably the leopard of England before the lions were adopted), which St. Peter is appeasing by the offer of the key; and the figure of the young ass immediately above the hand, also representing meekness or humility; thus allegorically showing the historical connexion between this church, the crown of England, and the monastery of St. Peter at Gloucester, to which this church was given by the Earl of Strygil.

This splendid and almost perfect fresco painting is now obliterated for ever, to the great disgrace of the architect and committee of management now superintending the restoration of this old church. Such Vandalism is totally unworthy of Cardiganshire, and shows a clear distinction between North and South Wales in point of taste for archaeology; as the good people of Wrexham have religiously preserved the old fresco paintings discovered under the whitewash in their fine old church, although they were not in such a perfect state of preservation as this. The same occurs at Chester, where a fresco-painting has been preserved in the old church of St. John; while the Llanbadarn fresco, having stood the test of time from 1111 to 1869, is now plastered over with a thick coating of mortar, and destroyed *for ever*.

Another singular fact has also come to light; for on taking up the flags, preparatory to laying down a new floor, an immense quantity of human bones were discovered *immediately* underneath the flags, between the chancel and the nave, showing no decent order of burial. A question arises;—from what cause could such a quantity of human bones be laid there? It can only be from that referred to in my account of the British encampments, and their connexion with the mines in this neighbourhood; where, at p. 10, it relates that the human bones found in the large carns at Penygarn, near Bow Street, were removed to Llanbadarn in carts for interment, and were probably buried in the church, and in the spot here indicated.

Yours truly,

J. G. WILLIAMS.

Gloster Hall. Jan. 1869.

EARLY INTERMENTS AT CEFN, NEAR ST. ASAPH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARCH. CAMB.

SIR,—You, and I dare say many readers of the *Arch. Camb.*, will be interested in the discovery of some early human remains in this parish. On the 23rd of January last one of our farmers, who had been busy carting away stones from a part of a field where until lately there had been some old trees growing, came upon some bones, and conceiving them to be human, sent me a message to that effect. Hastening to the spot, I saw at once that he had come upon an old cistvaen, and that it was from within it, after breaking one of the upright stones which formed its base, that the bones had been extracted. The stones of the surrounding cairn had been removed at different times, for the mending of the roads. The farmer at once consented to let it remain as it was; and Mrs. Williams Wynn, on whose property it was found, being from home, allowed it to be opened in the presence of Mr. Williams of Rhydycroesau, who fortunately was my guest at the time. This was done on the 26th. First clearing away the loose stones from above and around it, we found it to be in the form of an isosceles triangle, with the apex pointing east north-east; the base measuring four feet on the inside, and formed of two large upright stones standing some two feet out of the ground; and the sides measuring about nine feet each, and consisting of three upright stones. The whole of the interior was filled up with fine sand, and capstones seem to have been placed over the whole, but had been broken or removed. Beginning carefully to remove the sand near the base, where the bones had first been found, we discovered several skulls, jaws, teeth, and other bones; the skulls in a very fragmentary condition, but the teeth and bones wonderfully preserved. A medical friend, who examined them, is of opinion that the bones, from their weight, must still have retained a considerable amount of animal matter; and assigns the skulls to a very low type, the foreheads being narrow and receding. The teeth seem to be those of young people, but some of them are ground down to a smooth surface, as if from eating hard substances, such as corn. Nothing has been found to indicate the age or period to which they belong; not even a trace of flint, iron, bronze, or charcoal.

Judging from the position of the bones, the mode of burial would seem to have been, first, to make the cistvaen, then to put in the bodies, with their backs or heads to the sides, and after that to fill the whole up with fine sand, finishing off with the capstones and cairn. The name of the field is Tyddyn Bleiddyn; and one of the workmen remembers hearing a former tenant, a very old man, speak of the *carneidd* in it as a nuisance. Hundreds of loads of stones (lime) have been carted away lately; and many more some years ago, when stones as large as any now exposed were broken up, and perhaps a similar cistvaen destroyed, as there is a sort of tradition that there are two burial-places there.

Only a portion has as yet been examined, a little further search having been made on a short visit of Mr. W. W. E. Wynne to the place; but as Mrs. Williams Wynn has now returned, we hope to make a further exploration shortly, of which I shall be happy to furnish you with an account.

I am, etc.

D. R. THOMAS.

Cefn Rectory, St. Asaph. March 2.

CONSTRUCTION OF CROMLECHS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARCH. CAMB.

SIR,—I hope I may not be intruding too much on your space in asking, through the medium of the *Arch. Camb.*, from yourself or correspondents, some information on cromlechs. I have been led to do so by reading in the *Transactions* of the Royal Irish Academy an account of the stone remains in the Deccan. The report was furnished by Capt. M. Taylor, who describes the remains as very numerous, consisting of kistvaens, "cromlechs, cairns, etc., which are generally in groups, and often surrounded by circles of stone: the cairns, so numerous as in some parts¹ to be found by thousands, have in some instances a double or treble circle enclosing them." The distinction drawn between kistvaens and cromlechs seems very slight. The author says: "They are similarly constructed, except that the former (with or without a top) has always four sides, and the latter² only three. In none of the open cromlechs could anything be found, and the original earth of the floor remained undisturbed. Many of the kistvaens had a circular³ hole, from four to nine inches in diameter, perforated in the centre of the slab, on the south side." They vary in size, from the kistvaen of two feet long by ten inches wide (probably for infants), to those which measure fifteen feet in length by six or seven feet in width. Some of the cromlechs are fifteen feet by nine feet square. Our definition of the kistvaen applies to what Capt. Taylor calls cists, as found in the cairns.

From his examination of the contents of these monuments, two systems of inhumation were found to have been prevalent, viz. cremation and the body entire. In the former the ashes were collected in urns; in the latter, with the primary or principal deposit many skeletons were usually found lying in great confusion; mostly with the skulls

¹ Between Hyderabad and Masulipatam.

² Capt. Taylor cites Kits Coity House as an example. I know it has one side enclosed; but I have no remembrance of either of the side-slabs being perforated.

³ M. Carro, in his *Voyage chez les Celtes*, notices the dolmen of Trie as having the slab on the south side perforated by a round hole, and adds: "On a signalé une ouverture circulaire analogue à celle de Trie dans divers autres dolmens, notamment à Villers St. Sepulcre, canton de Noailles, dans le voisinage de Beauvais, et dans plusieurs monuments de la Bretagne." (P. 169.)

separated from the trunk, and laid in curious positions, with their front towards the south. The inference is obvious, viz. that in these instances the bodies had been immolated at the obsequies of the chief person entombed. Vessels of pottery, arrow-heads, and implements of iron, were also found.

The preceding is a summary of Capt. Taylor's report, and from which we are led to ask what degree of assimilation exists between the cromlechs of India and those of the Principality? Are the table-stones supported by slabs or imposts, or both? Are those with slabs closed only on three sides, the fourth left open? Are there instances of perforations of the south or any other slab? Is there any theory respecting the cromlechs as constructed with slabs or imposts? Are they considered the work of the same people? Are not rather the means at hand the causes of the difference?

The existence of these kinds of stone remains is now known to be more universal than was at one time supposed; while the analogy between them is oftentimes so remarkable as almost to point to a common origin: indeed, were I to venture such an hypothesis, I feel I should not be regarded as a propounder of unconsidered mysteries, for there is much in support of such a view. They were never raised by necessity impelled by instinct, as in the case of man in a state of nature, to supply his actual wants; so that in the absence of causation, we must revert to an original starting-point, or seek some other theory by which to explain the mystery of their homogeneity.

The question is an interesting one, and well deserves the attention of the painstaking inquirer. It was, I believe, the opinion of the late Mr. Kemble, but unsupported by other antiquaries, that *tumuli inanes* were simply mounds kept, as it were, ready for use. Now, as respects the cromlechs described by Capt. Taylor as "*open* on one side, nothing *found* in them, and the original earth of the floor undisturbed," may we not reasonably infer that they had been prepared and kept for use, but never called into requisition?

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

CHAS. THORNE.

PROBABLE RESULTS OF THE BRIDGEND MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARCH. CAMB.

SIR,—The meeting of our Association next summer is to take place in a district so peculiarly rich in antiquities, more especially those of the middle ages, and so little known to many of our members, that I think a few lines pointing out the probable results of the meeting, and some of the chief objects to be visited, may not be misplaced. The district was, indeed, partially explored at the time of the Cardiff meeting; but this took place so long ago, and the members of the Association have been so much changed since, that it may practically be considered by many of us as ground archæologically unknown.

Bridgend (or may we not call it Talybont ar Ogwr?) lies in the

centre of the Vale of Glamorgan, and is closely surrounded by abbeys, churches, and castles of the greatest value; but this part of Glamorganshire is also interesting from the numerous manor-houses, farms, and even cottages of the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries, which are to be met with in tolerable preservation all about it. Very much, or thoroughly, Anglicised the district undoubtedly is; still it has a certain Welsh physiognomy of its own; and though it is rather remote from the wild upper country of the Hills, yet it has many features of picturesque beauty, and is sufficiently historical in its past memories to interest even archaic students. The South Wales Railroad will bring us all within ready reach of the principal remains; and it will be our own faults, supposing the authorities of the Weather Office to be civil and obliging at the time, if we do not reap a rich antiquarian harvest on that occasion. The public accommodations of the place are sufficient, roads are good, horses and vehicles always ready, great courtesy and kindness everywhere abundant. All circumstances are in favour of a successful meeting.

Leaving the active officers of our Association to mark out the Excursions with their usual tact, I will only enumerate the chief remains *lying within practicable distance from the town*:

(1.) *Monastic Houses*.—Margam Abbey, with its fine chapter house, in ruins;—and these ruins, how beautiful!—its host of early crosses and incised stones; all within the precincts of the sumptuous domain of Margam Park.

Neath Abbey is too far off, and it was well explored at the time of the Swansea meeting, though it will bear not one, but many repeated visits.

Ewenny Abbey, on the bank of the Ogmore river, close to Bridgend. It has been well described by Mr. Freeman, but still too briefly, and it may be considered as waiting to have done justice done it by a careful inspection.

(2.) *Castles*.—In Bridgend itself are the remains of two, small and plain, but still instructive: *Old Castle* in the lower town, and *New Castle* crowning the hill above the church of the upper town. At the mouth of the river itself is Ogmore Castle, of no great size, but sufficiently known in the history of the district. Some three miles from the town is Coity Castle, one of the more considerable remains of the county, and of no small interest, both historical and architectural. Towards Cardiff lies St. Fagan's Castle, well worth visiting, with its beautiful church; and still nearer, the scanty remains of Llantrisant Castle in its quaint, antique town. A few miles eastward from Bridgend is the town of Cowbridge, with the Castle of Llanblethian quite close to it, a very interesting ruin. On the coast, some five miles south from Bridgend, is Dunraven Castle, the residence of our noble President Elect; but it is not quite fair to include this in our archaeological list. Ten miles from Bridgend, and on the coast beyond Dunraven, is St. Donat's Castle, the great gem of the district, and one of the most interesting buildings in Wales. It has never ceased to be an inhabited castle, and is now being repaired by its present owner, Dr. Nicholl Carne. It is principally of the fourteenth, fifteenth,

and sixteenth centuries, has its double circuit of walls, and stands on the edge of a hill with gardens, pleasance, moat, and pond, just as in ancient times. The building is exceedingly picturesque, and will now be accessible to members; though in former times the rather morbid sensibilities of two old ladies, its tenants, kept visitors rigidly excluded.

(3.) *Churches*.—Nearly every village hereabouts contains a church worthy of examination. At Bridgend itself the church of Newcastle has a good tower and some interesting details; but the same may be said of all the following buildings, Coity, Coychurch, Laleston, St. Bride's Major, Cowbridge, etc.; while almost all even of the smaller village churches will well reward the architectural visitor. The great curiosity in this class is, however, the church of Llantwit Major, already described and illustrated in the *Arch. Camb.*, with its early inscribed stones,—some of the greatest treasures of their kind within the whole Principality. At Merthyr Mawr, too, near the town of Bridgend, the church and the inscribed stones in the grounds of Mr. Nicholl's residence must needs attract the attention of the Association.

Ancient Houses.—The great store of these is at Llantwit Major, a place most singular in all its characteristics; but they abound, in truth, all over the neighbourhood, especially at Laleston and Cowbridge. In the village of Llanfihangel, between that place and Llantwit, there is one of the most interesting specimens of the ancient manor house anywhere to be met with. It demands careful inspection and illustration; for the omission of it would constitute an archaeological as well as an artistical crime. Old manor-houses are to be seen at Nash, near Llantwit; at Boverton, still nearer to that place; immense monastic barns at Llantwit and Monknash; and, in fact, almost every village contains something that will attract antiquarian notice.

It is to be hoped that some explanation will be given at the meeting of the fact of so many ancient domestic buildings still remaining in this district; for there is nothing like it elsewhere in Wales, except in Pembrokeshire. Indeed, we may be pardoned for hoping that the officers of the Association will be able to find members able to give lucid accounts of the chief local antiquities. A museum may well be dispensed with; for it is, in fact, but little looked at on these occasions; and it would be far better to confine discussions to local remains, a course which would naturally be more interesting to our hosts, than to go into them on subjects from distant parts of the country. It may be heresy to say so;—but long-winded dissertations on abstract archaeological topics are especially to be deprecated; and the meeting, to be thoroughly successful, should have as much of a local character given to it as possible. By forgetting this rule we have erred on former occasions, and promoted sleep instead of inquiry.

I am, Sir, etc.

AN ANTIQUARY.

Miscellaneous Notices.

HIGH SHERIFFS OF DENBIGHSHIRE.—A.D. 1601.—Owen Vaughan of Llwydiarth, Esq. The heiress and representative of the Vaughans of Llwydiarth and Llangedwin conveyed those estates into the Purcell family, whose eldest daughter and coheiress, Mary, married Edward Vaughan of Glanllyn, in the parish of Llanuwchllyn, in Meirionydd, Esq.; and their daughter and coheir, Mary Josephina, was the first wife of the first Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart. By him she had several children, who all died young; but her estates of Llwydiarth, Llangedwin, and Glanllyn, passed either by bequest or settlement to her husband in fee, and are now the property of his representative, the present baronet. (Lewis Dwnn, ii, p. 230, note.) J. Y. W. LL.

NOTES ON THE HIST. OF LLANGURIG.—John Fowler of Brondrefawr and Abbeycwmhir, Esq., high sheriff for Radnorshire, 1690, was a younger son of Richard Fowler of Harnage Grange, co. Salop, Esq., high sheriff for Radnorshire, 1655, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Richard Lord Newport of High Ercall, and Rachel his wife, daughter of John Levison of Haling in Kent, Esq., and sister of Sir Richard Levison of Trentham, co. Stafford, Knt. It appears from the *History of Radnorshire*, that John Fowler succeeded to the Radnorshire estates on the death of his father, and that he did not acquire them by purchase. His eldest daughter and coheiress, Rachel, married Jenkyn Lloyd of Clochfaen, 1698. J. Y. W. LL.

INTERNATIONAL CELTIC REVIEW.—M. H. Gaidoz, who has been appointed by the Minister of Public Instruction in France to examine into the state of Celtic dialects, literature, and studies, in Great Britain and Ireland, is about to establish an international Celtic *Revue*, which will appear quarterly. The support of several distinguished scholars has been already engaged, among whom are MM. R. Pictet, Whitley Stokes, Ar. de Barthelemy, Le Men, Luzel, Hennessy, M.R.I.A., etc. The attention of members of this Association is directed to this important announcement. The annual subscription is £1, for which the *Revue* is delivered in England. Members wishing for further information may apply to M. Gaidoz, 32, Rue Madame, Paris; or to the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, Melksham.

PRENDERGAST CHURCH, HAVERFORD WEST.—This church is, we understand, about to be totally taken down except the tower, under the pretext of repairs, or restoration. Probably the parish is rich, or else a goodly list of subscriptions has been raised, and the local builders, architects, &c., wish to profit by the demolition, and the reconstruction, if the latter takes place. In another part of the same county, not far from this town, the parish church was taken down

on a similar pretext, some years ago; but those who authorized the demolition omitted to make provision for the reconstruction of the sacred edifice; and the parish remains without a church, we understand, down to the present day. The old building of Prendergast church might well have been repaired and its architectural features of the fifteenth century retained; but the tower is a good one, of the usual Pembrokeshire semi-military type; and its preservation is so far a piece of accidental good luck.

HEN BLAS, BEAUMARIS, DEMOLITION OF.—It is with great regret that we have learnt the demolition of this the ancient residence of the Bulkeley family. It was, next to the castle, the oldest civil building of Beaumaris; part of it, the hall, dating from the time of Elizabeth; the rest from that of Charles II. This building was no doubt that where lived the worthy merchant whose brass, still adorning the chancel of the parish church, commemorates him as *HUJUS MERCATOR PROVIDUS OPPIDULI*.

The house which has been described and illustrated in this Journal had long been abandoned by the family to which it belonged; had been let out to poor families; and had been allowed to fall into bad repair; the opportunity, therefore, must have been too tempting to the local building trade; so, by way of *improving* the town, it has been demolished, its materials sold, and, as we understand, it is to be replaced by a row or street of what the trade call "neat" houses. In such times as the present, it is a pity to see the landmarks of a noble family removed; the omen is a bad one, and the example unfortunately catching.

Reviews.

GWERZIOU BREIZ-IZEL; OR POPULAR BALLADS OF LOWER BRITANNY. By F. M. LUZEL. Edw. Conformat. Lorient, 1868.

WE have at last, thanks to M. Luzel, a collection of genuine Breton ballads with a literal translation in French. Cambry and Souvestre have inserted in their works a few specimens; but as they have not given them in the original, they cannot be safely considered as Breton productions. Then M. De la Villemarqué has favoured the learned world with his *Barzaz Breiz*, a collection of so-called Breton songs, but which are supposed to be more remarkable for anything else rather than their genuineness. The poems may be amusing, and exhibit the imaginative powers of the compiler to advantage; but Breton scholars have long thought proper to express very strong doubts as to M. De la Villemarqué's knowledge of the language, and the value of his work as illustrative of Breton poetry and traditions. The fact is, no man can do what that gentleman pretended to do, without a thorough know-

ledge of Breton. Hence the difference between the Villemarqué poems and those which M. Luzel has collected with no little labour and care through many years. He not only gives us variations of the same ballad, but the *verba ipsissima* of the reciter; and so anxious is he to carry this plan out with the utmost strictness, that he occasionally gets the speaker to repeat particular passages, so as to reproduce, as it were, on paper the very shades (or, as he expresses himself, the physiognomy) of the narration. The fact is, until M. Luzel set to work, the subject of these ancient poems, handed down from generation to generation in the more retired districts of Brittany, has never been properly treated; and we are only too glad that it has at last been taken up in such a manner, and by such a Breton scholar, that no suspicions concerning their genuineness can occur even to the most cautious of critics. The ballads given in this volume are none of them, except, perhaps, the first, of any very great antiquity; some of them are not unknown in other countries, especially in Denmark, under a different dress. The same tender and pathetic character pervades them all more or less, and the subjects do not exhibit any striking variety.

M. Luzel, we believe, also intends to extend his labours to the collection and preservation of tales in prose; which in one respect will be still more interesting, as such recitals are generally of much older character than the ballads. We must, however, wait for the completion of the second volume, which will include the *Soniou*, or lyric poetry; the *Gwerziou* being rather legendary or historic songs. The former includes satirical and comic songs, and those connected with marriage, the dance, customs, and the nursery.

The importance of M. Luzel's work will be acknowledged not only by Celtic scholars, but by others; for as he justly says in the commencement of his preface, history, poetry, philology, and ethnology, have all some secrets to ask of the national songs of a people, and especially in the case of a branch of the great Aryan trunk, and a dialect of a language which has found its way from Asia to Western Europe.

THE LIFE AND LABOURS OF GEORGE PETRIE, LL.D., ETC. By WILLIAM STOKES, M.D., etc., Physician to the Queen in Ireland. 8vo. London, 1868.

No supporter of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, no one who feels an interest in the investigation of Celtic antiquities, or in the history, now being gradually unfolded, of the early inhabitants of the British isles, can regard with indifference the fame of the subject of this volume. Dr. Petrie, personally known to many of us, and beloved wherever he was known, was the earliest and one of the most distinguished of that school of Irish antiquaries, who put to flight the baseless theories of Vallancey, Betham, and O'Brien, and by a close study of the actual objects of antiquity, and a rigid application to them of the inductive method of reasoning, raised Celtic archæology from a tissue of crude speculations into the rank of a science, and the character of the archæologist from that of a mere collector of pots and

pans,—a virtuoso-like Dryasdust,—to a title of weight and European fame.

Nor is it unjust to that small but brilliant band of Irishmen who have done so much and that so well for the early history of their country; to Todd and Graves, and Reeves, O'Donovan and O'Curry, Sir William Wilde, Whitley Stokes, Lord Dunraven, and the author of this biography, to rank Petrie as their superior in general antiquarian knowledge, as in the amazing variety of accomplishment which he brought to bear upon his favourite pursuit. In special branches of archaic lore no doubt many of those eminent men were much his superiors, but no one among them directed so many channels of information upon one centre. Of Scottish parentage but Irish birth, he combined the sober industry of the children of the old country with the brilliant fancy so characteristic of those of the other. As a painter endowed with much imagination, he was also a most accurate draughtsman, and his delineations of the details of ancient buildings, and copies of almost effaced inscriptions, may always be depended upon. An accomplished musician, his taste and feeling led him to seek out and preserve the ancient melodies of his country, of which he recovered and recorded a very considerable number, which but for him would probably have been lost. Although unsurpassed in his study of the internal and material evidences of their age supplied by ancient buildings and earthworks, Petrie did not neglect the collateral evidence of ancient records. His application of passages in the vast mass of early historical documents, edited in great part by his friend O'Donovan, to the material remains discovered by himself in the field, was very successful, and this combination, too much neglected by many English antiquaries, is especially displayed in his memoir upon the hill of Tara, which, published in 1837, placed him at once in the foremost rank of the archæologists of Ireland.

To this distinction he had paved the way by his labours upon the celebrated memoir which accompanied the earliest Irish Ordnance Survey; the first of a series intended to embrace the natural, artificial, and social statistics of the country, and of which the one part published, including the county of Londonderry, shows how much has been lost by the ill-judged parsimony of the government. While the survey itself was conducted by the officers of Engineers under Captain, afterwards Sir Thomas Larcom, to Petrie was entrusted the general superintendence of the collateral researches, and he was assisted in this duty by a most efficient staff, of whom the names of O'Connor, O'Keefe, Downes, Du Noyer, and Wakeman are still remembered for their energy and success in topography. Out of this truly national undertaking arose not only the Tara memoir, but the paper upon the round towers of Ireland read before the Irish Academy in 1833, and with which, as a most important part of his great work on *Irish Ecclesiastical Antiquities*, the fame of Petrie is very widely associated.

Nothing could be more contemptible than the speculations which passed current for authority at the commencement of the present century upon the origin and use of these very remarkable structures. They were Phallic emblems, astronomical gnomons, shrines for the

vestal fire, Danish watch towers, towers of the Chaldee fire worshippers, or intended for many other equally dissimilar and improbable uses; and perhaps the most generally received opinion was that they were in some way sepulchral monuments. Petrie examined and disposed of each supposition in detail. He then took a comprehensive view of all the types of ancient stone structures known throughout the country, and showed which might fairly be regarded as pre-Christian and which of later date. He brought to notice the great forts of unhewn and uncemented stone of Dun Aenghus in Aran and Staigue in Kerry, the singular clustered houses or beehives found along the western coast, and the small and early churches with their cyclopean masonry, inclined door jambs, and roofs of overlapping flags. He then pointed out that the towers whose masonry, and ornament when present, proved them to be Christian, were always associated with ecclesiastical foundations. He showed that where church and tower were original, the masonry proved them to be of the same age; that the invention of the arch and the use of lime cement, the one found in many and the other in all of the towers, were unknown in Ireland before the introduction of Christianity; that no evidently early building in Ireland at all resembles these towers, either in design or workmanship; and that the attribution of them to a pagan age was an idea of General Vallancey, an author remarkable for the rashness of his speculations. He then pointed out a considerable number of references to those towers, as Christian structures, and further as belfries, in the ancient historical records of Ireland, and especially in the annals of the four masters; and thus by a happy combination of actual observation and historical research, he established the now undoubted fact that these singular structures were the belfries of Christian churches, designed also for, and occasionally used as, places of security against sudden attacks, and, though generally resemblant, exhibiting certain important differences of detail and in construction shewing that they continued to be built from even before the tenth to the thirteenth century. While supporting the main argument of his essay Petrie surrounded it with an immense mass of original information concerning the ancient buildings of Ireland, so that in truth this volume is a very curious incomplete history of the art of constructions throughout that country, from the earliest times down to the Norman invasion.

Besides these, his most widely known works, upon the Hill of Tara and Irish ecclesiastical architecture, Petrie was the author of several detached papers upon the military and sepulchral remains of the country, and upon the history of its ancient art as displayed in manuscript illuminations, paintings, shrines, and jewellery, and various articles of ornament, chiefly ecclesiastical. His collection of Irish music was commenced very early in his life, and carried on to its conclusion. His method of collecting and writing down airs among the peasantry was very curious, and his remarks upon Irish music and early musical instruments are exceedingly interesting and valuable. As he grew old, although Petrie collected with equal assiduity, he published less, and was but little before the public; but, on the other

hand, the peculiar graces of his character, his sweetness of temper, his childlike simplicity, and his strong affection for his friends, became more and more apparent; and when finally he closed his long and useful life, those who survived mourned the loss not only of a great antiquary and a true patriot, but of a man in whom love of his favourite pursuit, his country, and his friends, was blended with those virtues which eminently adorn the Christian character.

To Dr. Stokes we are indebted for a brief but well-arranged and complete account of the leading pursuits and main features of the character of his friend. Few, if any, knew him more intimately, and with none could the effort to preserve and honour his memory have been more completely a labour of love.

G. T. C.

LIHERIEN HAG AVIELEN, OR THE CATHOLIC EPISTLES AND GOSPELS FOR THE DAY, UP TO ASCENSION, &c. By CHRISTOLL TERRIEN and CHARLES WABING SAXTON, D.D. Ch. Ch., Oxford.

This very curious work, which ought to be, and probably must have been, a product of the Breton press, comes to us bearing the names of Messrs Trübner and Co., Paternoster Row, London, and of Mr. David Pryce Owen, of WELCHPOOL, as its publishers. We really were not aware that Welshpool was up to anything of the kind; and we look on it as another good symptom of literary activity in Montgomeryshire. The title-page states that the epistles and gospels are translated for the first time into the *Brehonec of Brittany*, and follows up this by saying "Also in three other parallel columns a NEW VERSION of the same into *Breizounec* (commonly called *Breton* and *Armorican*); a version into *Welsh*, mostly new and closely resembling the *Breton*, and a version *Gaelic* or *Manx*, or *Cernaweg*, with illustrative articles by the authors abovenamed. The sacred texts are given in four parallel columns, and at irregular intervals come bodies of notes in French, partly upon the matter of the text, but chiefly philological; some historical, and a great many *à propos de rien*. It is a book of learning, no doubt; but it requires a preface, or a body of prolegomena, to inform the public of what may be its object. The gift of the four texts is a good one, and we ought to be thankful for it; so we ought for the notes, which are decidedly original. M. Chr. Terrien pays us the compliment of not translating his own portion of them from the French; but Dr. Saxton writes his in Latin; and the appearance of the six languages on the same page is rather enigmatical. Unfortunately we have not space for giving specimens of the different dialectic versions; but we find the names of friends, such as the Rev. Robert Williams of Rhydygroesau, the Rev. D. S. Evans of Llanymawddy, and the Rev. James Jones of Ruthin, attached to the Welsh version;

and we do not hesitate to commend the whole to the diligent examination of our fellow members. We much want, however, a connected account of the whole scope of the book, of its *raison d'être* in fact, before we can give a lengthened review of it. If, as we suspect, it is to be taken as a proof of the confidence wherewith two Celtic scholars have thrown themselves on the sympathetic intelligence of England and Wales (London and Welshpool), we hail its appearance with the greatest satisfaction, and hope that it will be warmly responded to.

In consequence of an untoward accident in the conveyance of drawings, it has been impossible to get the view of the Roman altar with Oghams at Loughor, which was to have accompanied this paper, executed in time for the present number. It will be issued with No. 60, and therefore will be in time for Vol. XV.

July 1st, 1869.

ED. ARCH. CAMB.